

**BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on **Tuesday, November 9, 2021** in the Old Court Room at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT. Warden Maher called the meeting to order at 7:30p.m.

Present: Warden Jay Maher, Senior Burgess Chris Gardner, Burgess James Gaston, Burgess Anthony Baiad, Burgess Jarod Modzelewski, Treasurer Paula Brinkman, Zoning Officer Rob Sibley and Clerk Ann Scaia.

Absent: Burgess Bill Lucas, Burgess Sarah Phillips, Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez and Tree Warden Rob McCulloch

Also Present: 1 member of the public.

Burgess Gaston made a motion to accept the October 12, 2021 regular meeting minutes,
seconded by Burgess Baiad. 1 Abstain. Motion passed.

Warden's Report: Warden Maher regretfully announced Brid Craddock was stepping down from the Borough Zoning Commission.

Burgess Gaston made a motion to appoint Doug McDonald as Commission Member of the Borough Zoning Commission, seconded by Senior Burgess Gardner and unanimously approved.

Tree Warden's Report: In the absence of Tree Warden McCulloch, Warden Maher reported Tree Warden McCulloch is compiling a list of stumps to be removed in the Borough. Since the town funding will not be replenished until July of 2022, Tree Warden McCulloch inquired whether there was possible funding from the Borough to pay for the removal of stumps. Warden Maher will ask Tree Warden McCulloch to present approximate cost and a priority list of stumps to be removed at the next month's Borough meeting. The Board of Burgesses will then discuss possible funding.

Tax Collector's Report: Tax Collector Enriquez reported the following for November 2021: Taxes Collectable \$163,730.75; Current Taxes: \$162,352.51; Back Taxes: \$1,028.09; Interest: \$921.25; Liens & Fees: \$96.00. Total Submitted to Treasurer to Date: \$161,700.00. Current Taxes Collected: \$160,798.68 representing 98.21%. Please review attached report for November 2021.

Senior Burgess Gardner made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report for November 2021, seconded by Burgess Gaston and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: The November 2021 report presents: A deposit of \$738.20 was made from the Borough Zoning Office. A deposit of \$2,200.00 made from Tax Collector, Jodie Enriquez. A transfer of \$10,600.00 was made to cover last month's invoicing. A transfer of \$2,938.20 was transferred into the ISC Account from the Borough Operating Account. A transfer of \$10,600.00 was transferred from the ISC Account to the Borough Operating Account. Interest on the 6 mo. CD was \$21.08 making a total of \$79,352.58. Please review attached report for November 2021.

Burgess Baiad made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for November 2021, seconded by Burgess Modzelewski and unanimously approved.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer Sibley had nothing new to report.

Historic District: Warden Maher reported Signorama is furnishing an invoice for the deposit of 50% for the "Welcome" signs to begin work. Burgess Gaston submitted a letter from Douglas Lord, Library Director, thanking the Historic Commissioners for their input on historically acceptable shingles to fix the library's roof (see attached).

Sidewalks: Warden Maher reported Land Use/Zoning Office Sibley have reviewed the initial drawings of the Sugar Street project and raised no issues. The drawings will be passed onto CT Department of Transportation for their review. Warden Maher also mentioned the need to secure a wetlands certificate for wetlands area near the bridge. Warden Maher reported he spoke with the Sidewalk Maintenance team of Rob Connor, of Connor Landscaping, regarding the scope of work approved last month for the edging of the sidewalks. Rob Connor confirmed to Warden Maher the maintenance of the sidewalks will be completed before Christmas time. Warden Maher reported the Queen Street/Church Hill Road project has been surveyed and drawings are forthcoming.

Streets & Parks: Senior Burgess Gardner reported a spot light was broken at the Sailors & Soldiers monument during Halloween. He will acquire an estimate from Ken Burns for the cost of repairs and present them at next month's Borough meeting.

New Business: Burgess Gaston suggested the exploration of utilizing funds from the American Rescue Package Act for Hawley Elementary School and Newtown Middle School. Burgess Gaston will first approach Superintendent Rodriguez for possible needs the two schools may have. He will then confer with Borough legal counsel on the viability of utilizing American Rescue Package Act funds.

Old Business: None.

Public Participation: Diana Johnson, of the Chamber of Commerce, wanted to thank the Board of Burgesses for the Borough's continued support of the Ram's Pasture Holiday Tree Lighting and Luminaria Display. She also announced the return of the traditional candle luminarias vs. the battery operated candles. She reiterated the tremendous support Ms. Mangold and the Newtown Parks and Recreation offers to the creation and maintenance of the various elements of the Ram's Pasture Tree Lighting & Luminaria Display. She offered a quick overview of the budget stating the balance on hand is currently \$2,649 with expenses totaling \$1,326. Newtown Hardware continues to supply the candles and was willing to hold the per unit cost even though the cost had risen by \$.20/candle. She concluded by offering a brief overview activities planned for the event.

The regular meeting of the Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 7:30p.m. in the Old Court Room in Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT.

There being no further business, Burgess Baiad made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m., seconded by Senior Burgess Gardner and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Scaia
Borough Clerk

NEWTOWN BOROUGH TAX

MONTHLY REPORT THRU: OCTOBER 2021

TOTAL TAXES DUE FOR GRAND LIST 2020:	\$163,367.21
LAWFUL CORRECTIONS:	
INCREASE	\$386.50
DECREASE	-\$22.96
TAXES COLLECTABLE:	<u>\$163,730.75</u>

AMOUNTS COLLECTED TO DATE:

CURRENT TAX:	\$162,352.51
BACK TAX	\$1,028.09
INTEREST:	\$921.95
LIENS & FEES:	\$96.00
TOTAL COLLECTED TO DATE:	<u>\$164,398.55</u>

TOTAL SUBMITTED TO TREASURER TO DATE:	\$161,700.00
REFUND GIVEN FROM CURRENT YR TAX	\$0.00
REFUND GIVEN DUE FROM PRIOR YR	\$0.00
	<u>\$161,700.00</u>

TAX COLLECTION SUMMARY:

GL 2020	TAXES COLLECTED	\$162,352.51	
	TAXES SUSPENDED	\$0.00	
	TRANSFERS	\$16.90	
	BOUNCED CHECKS	-\$372.34	
	REFUNDS	-\$1,198.39	
	TOTAL CURRENT TAX COLLECTED	<u>\$160,798.68</u>	98.21%
	UNCOLLECTED TAXES	<u>\$2,932.07</u>	1.79%
	OVERPAYMENTS	-\$241.74	

NOTE:

BACK TAXES OUTSTANDING FOR LIST 2019 AND PRIOR:	
UNCOLLECTED TAXES	\$544.99
OVERPAYMENTS FROM PRIOR YEARS	-\$154.43
ADJUSTMENTS	\$0.00
TRANSFER (TO CURRENT YEAR)	-\$16.90
BOUNCED CHECK FROM BT PAID	-\$665.85

DATE:
5-Nov-21

SIGN: *Jodie Enriquez*
BOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR

BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN

Treasurer's Report Month Ending October 31, 2021

		ACCOUNT 673 Operating Account	ACCOUNT 2470-D Insured Cash Sweep	ACCOUNT 873 American Rescue Plan	TOTAL
BEGIN 10/1/2021		\$250,010.28	\$377,668.80	\$274,759.36	\$902,438.44
Interest Transfer		-\$10.28	\$10.28		\$0.00
Transfer to Clerk's Account	check #312	-\$10,600.00			-\$10,600.00
Transfer in from ICS		\$10,600.00	-\$10,600.00		\$0.00
Deposit from Bldg/Zoning		\$738.20	\$0.00		\$738.20
Deposit from Tax	YTD:\$161,700	\$2,200.00	\$0.00		\$2,200.00
Transfer out to ICS Acct.		-\$2,938.20	\$2,938.20		\$0.00
Interest earned 10/31/2021		\$10.62	\$15.77	\$10.92	\$37.31
ENDING BALANCE 10/31/2021		\$250,010.62	\$370,033.05	\$274,770.28	\$894,813.95
		6 MONTH CD Account matures 3/15/2022			
BEGIN 10/1/2021		\$79,331.50			
Interest earned 10/31/2021	.20 APY	\$21.08			
ENDING BALANCE 10/31/2021		\$79,352.58			

Respectfully submitted 11/9/2021



Commissioners,

Thank you very much for your time and questions last week. The library is pleased to be able to move ahead with this project as the facility is at risk of becoming even leakier. I really appreciate your thoughts on the color of the shingles.

Following up on the local history projects that we were discussing, please feel free to stop by to see XYZ (images below) and if you have any personal collections we have display space that you can utilize so that the community sees the importance of the cultural artifacts that abound in Newtown.

I would be thrilled to give anyone a tour of the library and the various displays; we are trying to keep interesting Newtown-specific displays up at all times – some of that depends on folks like you, so please feel free. I would be glad to help in any way that I can.

Lastly, I wish I could offer the Commission a 'permanent' meeting space / home, but alas, the current building simply isn't big enough. I do look forward to the time, I hope within about a year or so, when the library has some offices for meetings up on Level 3. In the meantime, please know that I would be glad to help you host meetings in any of the library's public rooms at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

Douglas Lord, Library Director



Two pc white with black circles skirt bodice. This dress belonged Mrs. Harold Mack of Newtown; gift of Joan Graham.



Woodbridge 552 bodice and skirt worn at daughter's wedding. Cream and grey



Hawley Quilt; badly tattered. Boxed in archival box & tissue; UV film installed on window

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The House on Taunton Hill

These items are a fraction of what was unearthed by Lily Moreno-Sheridan in her back yard in 2021.

Before town dumps were established, people would simply discard rubbish at the end of their property.

China, glassware, ceramic, metal – many objects were discarded and this sampling is representative of what was *not* so precious a century or more ago.