

BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 in the Old Court Room at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT. Warden Maher called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Present were: Warden Jay Maher, Senior Burgess Chris Gardner, Burgess Bill Lucas, Burgess Anthony Baiad, Burgess Sarah Phillips, Burgess James Gaston, Burgess Jared Modzelewski, Treasurer Paula Brinkman, Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez and Temporary Clerk Maureen Crick Owen.

Absent: Tree Warden Rob McCulloch and Clerk Ann Scaia.

Also present: Donna Monteleone and Christine Calabrese, both of American Legion Post 202, Jennifer Guman, Betsy Paynter and Sheila Torres, all of ETH, Doug Nelson, Chairman of Borough Zoning Commission and one press.

Burgess Modzelewski made a motion to accept the minutes of March 8, 2022 regular meeting, seconded by Burgess Baiad and approved. Burgess Gaston abstained.

Warden's Report:

- **BZEO candidate:** Mr. Nelson reported that there must have been a mix up which is why the potential candidate was not in attendance. He explained that the potential candidate for BZEO has 20-25 years of zoning experience and is very interested in the position. Mr. Nelson reported that two new restaurants were coming into the Borough. The candidate discussion will be added to the May agenda.
- **ETH ARPA Proposal:** Ms. Guman, Ms. Paynter and Ms. Torres presented their ARPA proposal. Their request was: (1) \$400,000 to install A/C in the gym, lobby and offices which would allow them to generate more revenue as it would provide more comfort for the tenants, guests and employees; (2) \$34,000 for reliable internet as it is important to provide reliable Wi-Fi service for their programs and for guests/tenants; (c) \$13,500 for security cameras for inside the building which would provide protection; and (d) \$10,800 to fix the drains to prevent de-gassing.
- **Trinity Day School ARPA Proposal:** Ms. Brinkman, on behalf of Trinity Day School, present their ARPA proposal. Trinity Day School is a separate entity from the church and is a non-profit company. They are requesting: (a) \$265 to replace the sandbox cover; (b) \$370 for a shade covering for the playhouse/bench area; (c) \$718 for two poly-wood benches; (d) \$900 for deciduous tree/related planting expense; and (e) \$100 for exterior stain/protectant for swings and other wooden items. The total request is for \$2,353. Ms. Brinkman said that the playground is open to the public.
- **Newtown Village Cemetery ARPA Proposal** Ms. Crick Owen, President of Newtown Village Cemetery, presented the ARPA proposal on behalf of NVC. She said that Ram Pasture is a part of the Borough Historic District and said it is a pristine landmark for the Borough and Town. The dam and bridge need repairs. The mission would be to restore the masonry work associated with the dam and

bridge. She suggested the scope of the project being divided into two phases with the repair of the dam being the first phase and the repair of the bridge being the second phase. She said while she has not obtained quotes yet, she believes a rough estimate for Phase 1 would be \$50,000 and Phase 2 would be \$40,000. Warden Maher stated that he and Ms. Crick Owen met with the Town's Chief Building Official, and he felt that the project did not require a structural engineer or permits in that it was a repair. He also said that the job is very labor intensive.

- Discussion and Possible Action on repair at Hawley Pond: No action was taken.
- Senior Earth Day project: no discussion.
- American Legion Post 202: Donna Monteleone and Christine Calabrese American Legion Post 202 stated that they would like permission to put luminaries at the Sailors and Soldiers monument on Memorial Day weekend from that Sunday at dusk through Tuesday morning. They displayed what the luminary would look like. It was discussed that the Newtown Women's Club currently places flags at the island for Memorial Day. Mrs. Monteleone said they would be happy to partner with NWC. **Burgess Gaston made a motion to approve the project as long as the details are worked out with Newtown Women's Club**, seconded by Senior Burgess Gardner and unanimously approved. **Burgess Gaston made a motion to approve a donation of \$250 for supplies for this project**, seconded by Senior Burgess Gardner and unanimously approved.
- Meeting House ARPA Proposal: Warden Maher stated that he had been contacted by Don Studley requesting \$25,000. They have had extensive damage because the boiler stopped working. They need to make repairs and replace the boiler. He said the total cost is about \$60,000. This will be added to the May agenda.

2022-2023 Budget: Warden Maher presented his thoughts on revising some of the line items in the budget from what was presented at the March meeting. Discussion took place concerning how much money should be taken from the fund balance to offset the mill rate increase. **Burgess Gaston made a motion to approve the revised budget of \$224,820 and to use \$25,000 of the fund balance thereby making the mill rate .76.** Burgess Baiad seconded the motion. The vote was 5-1 in favor (with Senior Burgess Gardner voting no).

Tree Warden Report: No report due to the absence of the Tree Warden.

Tax Collector's Report: Tax Collector Enriquez reported the following for March 2022: Taxes Collectable \$163,729.75; Current Taxes: \$165,522.49; Back Taxes: \$1,697.46; Interest: \$1,400.28; Liens & Fees: \$144.00. Total Submitted to Treasurer to Date: \$168,764.23. Current Taxes Collected: \$163,986.66; Percentage of Taxes Collected: 100%. See attached report for March 2022. **Burgess Gaston made a motion to approve the Tax Collector's report for March 2022**, seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: The March 2022 report presents: There was \$444.00 deposit made from the Borough Zoning Office. She reported that the beginning balance of all three accounts totaled \$827,773.87 and with payments made and interest earned, the ending balance for all three accounts as of 03/31/2022 is \$807,720.60. The CD is a 3-month CD earning .10 APY and had an ending balance of \$79,411.31. See attached report for

March 2022. **Burgess Baiad made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report for March 2022**, seconded by Senior Burgess Gardner and unanimously approved.

Historic District: Warden Maher stated that the signs are up and said that former Burgess Betsy Kenyon gets the credit for this great job.

Sidewalks: Warden Maher reported that Church Hill project is going well. He said that the final drawings should be ready by mid-May and then Wetlands and the State DOT will be reviewing them.

Streets and Parks: No report.

New Business: None.

Old Business: None.

Public Participation: none

A meeting of the property owners and/or electors of the Borough of Newtown will be held on May 10, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. in the Gym at Edmond Town Hall for the purpose of voting on the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2022-2023. The regular meeting of the Board of Burgesses will be held immediately following the meeting of the property owners in the Old Court Room in Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT.

Burgess Lucas made a motion to adjourn at 9:45 p.m., seconded by Burgess Gaston and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Crick Owen
Temporary Clerk

NEWTOWN BOROUGH TAX

MONTHLY REPORT THRU: MARCH 2022

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| TOTAL TAXES DUE FOR GRAND LIST 2020: | \$163,367.21 |
| LAWFUL CORRECTIONS: | |
| INCREASE | \$387.50 |
| DECREASE | -\$24.96 |
| TAXES COLLECTABLE: | \$163,729.75 |

AMOUNTS COLLECTED TO DATE:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| CURRENT TAX: | \$165,522.49 |
| BACK TAX | \$1,697.46 |
| INTEREST: | \$1,400.28 |
| LIENS & FEES: | \$144.00 |
| TOTAL COLLECTED TO DATE: | \$168,764.23 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| TOTAL SUBMITTED TO TREASURER TO DATE: | \$166,000.00 |
| REFUND GIVEN FROM CURRENT YR TAX | \$0.00 |
| REFUND GIVEN DUE FROM PRIOR YR | \$0.00 |
| | \$166,000.00 |

TAX COLLECTION SUMMARY:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------|
| GL 2020 | TAXES COLLECTED | \$165,522.49 | |
| | TAXES SUSPENDED | \$0.00 | |
| | TRANSFERS | \$16.90 | |
| | BOUNCED CHECKS | -\$372.34 | |
| | REFUNDS | -\$1,198.39 | |
| | TOTAL CURRENT TAX COLLECTED | \$163,968.66 | 100.15% |
| | UNCOLLECTED TAXES | -\$238.91 | -0.15% |
| | OVERPAYMENTS | -\$368.55 | |

NOTE:

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

DATE:
9-Apr-22

SIGN: Jodie Enriquez
BOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR

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|--|----------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------|--|--------------|
| | | BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN | | | | | | |
| | | Treasurer's Report | | | | | | |
| | | Month Ending March 31, 2022 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | ACCOUNT 673 | | ACCOUNT 2470-D | | ACCOUNT 873 | | TOTAL |
| | | Operating Account | | Insured Cash Sweep | | American Rescue Plan | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| BEGIN 3/1/2022 | | \$250,009.58 | | \$302,948.84 | | \$274,815.45 | | \$827,773.87 |
| Interest Transfer | | -\$9.58 | | \$9.58 | | | | \$0.00 |
| Transfer to Clerk's Account | Check #319 | -\$8,000.00 | | | | | | -\$8,000.00 |
| | Check #320 | -\$12,600.00 | | | | | | -\$12,600.00 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Transfer in from ICS | | \$20,600.00 | | -\$20,600.00 | | | | \$0.00 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Deposit: Bldg/Zoning | | \$444.00 | | \$0.00 | | | | \$444.00 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Deposit from Tax | YTD:\$164,700 | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 | | | | \$0.00 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Transfer out to ICS Acct. | | -\$444.00 | | \$444.00 | | | | \$0.00 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Interest earned 3/31/2022 | | \$10.62 | | \$79.69 | | \$12.42 | | \$102.73 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| ENDING BALANCE 3/31/2022 | | \$250,010.62 | | \$282,882.11 | | \$274,827.87 | | \$807,720.60 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | 6 MONTH CD Account | | | | | | |
| | | matured 3/15/2022 | RENEWAL: 3 months at .10 APY | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| BEGIN 3/1/2022 | | \$79,404.78 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Interest earned 3/31/2022 | .20% (to 3/15) | \$6.53 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| ENDING BALANCE 3/31/2022 | | \$79,411.31 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Respectfully submitted 4/12/2022 | | | | | | | | |

**BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Notice is hereby given that the Borough Meeting of the property owners and/or electors of the Borough of Newtown will be held at 7:30pm on May 10, 2022, in the Gym at the Edmond Town Hall for the purpose of voting on the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2022-23. Estimated Budget recommended by the Board of Burgesses of the Borough of Newtown is hereby set below in accordance with the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut.

IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN VACCINATED FOR COVID-19, EDMOND TOWN HALL REQUIRES A MASK BE WORN TO ENTER THE BUILDING AND AT ALL TIME WHILE IN THE BUILDING.

| | <u>Expenditure 2020-2021</u> | <u>Estimated Budget 2021-2022</u> | <u>Proposed Budget 2022-2023</u> |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ADVERTISING | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| AUDIT | 6,500 | 6,700 | 7,100 |
| AUXILIARY HELP | 3,000 | 3,000 | 2,500 |
| BONDS & INSURANCE | 200 | 200 | 200 |
| CULTURAL ARTS | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CONSULTING | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| CONTINGENCY | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| DATA PROCESSING | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| ELECTION | 3,000 | 0 | 2,500 |
| FIRE HYDRANT | 64,000 | 69,000 | 70,000 |
| FIRE DEPARTMENT | 6,500 | 6,500 | 6,500 |
| HEALTH DISTRICT | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| HISTORIC DISTRICT | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| LEGAL FEES | 15,000 | 15,000 | 12,500 |
| SIDEWALKS | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| STREET LIGHTS | 30,000 | 27,000 | 25,000 |
| OFFICE MAIN. & SUPPLIES | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| TREES & MAINTENANCE | 5,000 | 3,000 | 1,500 |
| SOLDIERS & SAILORS | 7,500 | 500 | 500 |
| STREETS & PARKS | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| FLAGPOLE | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| SOCIAL WORK | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| ASSESSOR | 3,500 | 3,800 | 4,000 |
| CLERK | 5,000 | 6,000 | 7,000 |
| TAX COLLECTOR | 7,500 | 7,500 | 8,500 |
| TREASURER | 4,500 | 5,000 | 5,500 |
| WARDEN | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 |

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| GRAND TOTALS | \$ | 225,520 | 216,720 | 224,820 |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|

Money to be raised from taxes $\$224,820 - \$31,000 = \$193,820$

98.5% Tax Collection Rate

$1.015 \times \$193,820 = \$196,727$

$\$196,727$ divided by $\$257,236,276$ (1000's Grand List - Mill) = 0.76

2022-2023 Proposed Mill Rate = 0.76

2015-2016 MILL RATE - 0.85
2016-2017 MILL RATE - 0.86
2017-2018 MILL RATE - 0.85

2018-2019 MILL RATE - 0.95

2019-2020 MILL RATE - 0.67

2020-2021 MILL RATE - 0.66

2021-2022 MILL RATE - 0.64

Joseph M. Maher III

Warden, Borough of Newtown

BOARD OF BURGESSES

Christopher Gardner, Senior Burgess

Anthony P. Baiad, Jr., Burgess

Sarah J. Phillips, Burgess

James O. Gaston, Burgess

William J. Lucas, III, Burgess

Jared Modzelewski, Burgess