

**BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on **Tuesday, November 14, 2023** in the Lower Meeting Room at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT. Warden Maher called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Present: Warden Joseph Maher, Senior Burgess Chris Gardner, Burgess James Gaston, Burgess Sarah Phillips, Burgess Maureen Crick Owen, Treasurer Paula Brinkman and Clerk Ann Scaia

Absent: Burgess Jared Modzelewski, Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez, Zoning Enforcement Officer Joe Chapman and Tree Warden Rob McCulloch

Also Present: There were 6 members of public.

Senior Burgess Gardner made a motion to accept the October 10, 2023 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Burgess Gaston and unanimously approved.

Warden's Report: Warden Maher reported he and Senior Burgess Gardner met with the Edmond Town Hall Board of Managers to review the proposed lease. No conclusions were made and Warden Maher and Senior Burgess Gardner were shown a possible alternate office space in the building.

Warden Maher commended Main Street residents for an exemplary Halloween night both in decoration and in attendance.

Tree Warden's Report: Tree Warden McCulloch was absent, but submitted the following report: Works orders have been slow from the town. Reviewed a large maple at the intersection of RT 302 and Baldwin and notified the State. Removed a tree at 24 The Blvd, removed stump at 22 Main St and planted a tree at 50 Main St.

Tax Collector's Report: Due to Tax Collector Enriquez absence there was nothing new to report for October 2023.

Treasurer's Report: The October 2023 report presents: A deposit of \$250.00 was made from the Borough Zoning Office. A deposit of \$10,000.00 was made from Tax Collector, Jodie Enriquez. A deposit of \$73.26 was made from OPMML. A transfer of \$16,987.63 was made to cover last month's invoicing and payroll. There was a transfer of \$10,323.26 made into the ISC Account from the Borough Operating Account. A transfer of \$16,987.63 was transferred from

the ISC Account to the Borough Operating Account. Interest on the 13 mo. CD was \$179.91 making a total of \$69,422.10. Please review attached report for September 2023.

Burgess Gaston made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for October 2023,
seconded by Senior Burgess Gardner and unanimously approved.

Treasurer Brinkman reported in October of 2022, a deposit of ARPA funds of \$190,353.51 was recorded on the written ledger but accidentally was not recorded on the electronic ledger. It has since been rectified in the October 2023 report.

Zoning Enforcement Officer's (ZOE) Report: Due to Zoning Enforcement Officer Joe Chapman absence, Borough Zoning Commissioner Doug Nelson reported the following:

It has been over 25 years since the Borough zoning regulations have been updated. Revised borough zoning regulations are being submitted to planning and zoning and once approved will be presented at a public hearing to be set at a later date. The revised regulations will allow better interpretation and easier enforcement of existing regulations.

Discussions for the property at 3 Main Street is still on the town agenda and will be reviewed by the new town selectman. The property at 55 Main Street will begin pursuing building permits to address the burned barn. The proposed plans for the property at 44 Castle Hill is currently being reviewed by Wetlands. There will be public hearings in December and January and voting will occur in February with applications probably in March. The property at 27 Church Hill is progressing in its construction and appears appropriate in design in the Borough. Borough Zoning Commissioner Nelson went on to say the Northside of Church Hill is professional construction. Many of the sidewalk lights either are not there or were placed property by property. Borough Zoning Commissioner Nelson proposes a light plan be created to design and execute a uniform look/use of lighting in the Borough. He also he suggested we view the condition of existing sidewalks and assess as several areas are in poor condition. Lastly, he announced Borough Zoning meetings will now occur the 3rd Wednesday of the month vs the 2nd Wednesday of the month starting January 2024.

Historic District: Burgess Phillips had nothing new to report for the Bicentennial. Burgess Phillips believes she will have more to report early in the new year.

Sidewalks: Warden Maher reported he and Kerri Mubarek have been working with Benesch to create the RFP for the Queen Street/Church Hill Road project. The intention is for this to go into bid in the Spring, which will allow us to get a contractor list together for release of request for proposal in February or early March.

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

New Business: Warden Maher stated Meghann Buck has been elected as a Burgess at the May 2023 elections. She unfortunately had to resign since she moved out of the borough. Warden Maher opened discussions of possible candidates that could fill the open position. The two candidates proposed are John Madzula II and Peter Schwartz. It was acknowledged both candidates are tremendous contributors to our town and the Borough specifically and both would serve as excellent Burgesses.

Burgess Gaston made a motion to appoint John Madzula II as Burgess on the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses, seconded by Burgess Phillips and unanimously approved.

Old Business: Senior Burgess Gardner reported he has spoken with Fred Hurley regarding the replacement of the signs on the Flagpole. The town highway department will be replacing the damaged signs.

Public Participation: Sue Torrey, of 31 West Street, asked who is responsible for cleaning up the mess left from Halloween night. Burgess Gaston stated the property owners are responsible for cleaning up their properties. Mark Maruschak, of 12 Lincoln Road, asked if the property at 3 Main Street still had interest in someone purchasing it. Borough Zoning Commissioner Nelson stated a letter of intent still exists from the contractor to the Town.

The regular meeting of the Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 7:30p.m.

There being no further business, Burgess Crick Owen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m., seconded by Burgess Gaston and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Scaia
Borough Clerk

			BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN					
			Treasurer's Report					
			Month Ending October 31, 2023					
			ACCOUNT 673	ACCOUNT 2470-D	ACCOUNT 873	TOTAL		
			Operating Account	Insured Cash Sweep	American Rescue Plan			
			BEGIN 10/1/2023					
			\$250,099.37	\$306,675.88	\$197,865.00	\$754,640.25		
			Interest Transfer					
			-\$99.37	\$99.37		\$0.00		
			Transfer to Clerk's Account					
		Check #351	-\$12,700.00			-\$12,700.00		
		Check #	-\$4,287.63			-\$4,287.63		
			Transfer in from ICS Account					
			\$16,987.63	-\$16,987.63		\$0.00		
			Deposit from Tax Collector					
		YTD:\$205,000	\$10,000.00	\$0.00		\$10,000.00		
			Deposit Bldg/Zoning/Misc			\$250.00		
			Deposit OPMMI			\$73.26		
			Transfer out to ICS Acct.					
			-\$10,323.26	\$10,323.26		\$0.00		
			Interest Earned 10/31/23					
			\$109.23	\$1,325.43	\$60.72	\$1,495.38		
			ENDING BALANCE 10/31/2023					
			\$250,109.23	\$301,436.31	\$197,925.72	\$749,471.26		

			CD ACCOUNT 814
			matures 1/15/24
			BEGIN 10/1/2023
			\$69,242.19
			Interest earned 10/31/2023
		3% APY	\$179.91
			ENDING BALANCE 10/31/2023
			\$69,422.10

Respectfully submitted 11/14/2023