BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on **Tuesday, June 8, 2021**. The meeting was held remotely due COVID-19 mandates and precautions. Warden Maher called the meeting to order at 7:32p.m.

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

Absent: Burgess Jarod Modzelewski and Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez

Also Present: 2 members of the public.

Burgess Lucas made a motion to accept the May 11, 2021 Budget meeting minutes, seconded by Burgess Gaston. Motion passed.

Senior Burgess Gardner made a motion to accept the May 11, 2021 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Burgess Baiad. Motion passed.

Warden's Report: Warden Maher reported the Borough has been selected to receive $580,000.00 over the course of two years associated with the American Rescue Package Act. Currently it is unclear what the funds may be used for but may possibly be used for capital improvements. As the situation evolves, Warden Maher will keep us posted of the timing and how the funds may be used.

Tree Warden's Report: Tree Warden McCulloch reported he has a list of work orders that will be addressed in July once funding is renewed. Tree Warden McCulloch did his annual assessment of trees on Main Street and Glover Avenue for distressed trees. He has also reviewed and recommended trees on Main Street and Glover be pruned in the near future as separate RFP's by street. Lastly, he requested people submit suggestions of trees to be planted anywhere in the Borough for this coming Fall.

Tax Collector's Report: Tax Collector Enriquez reported the following for May 2021: Taxes Collectable $161,931.90; Current Taxes: $161,092.89; Back Taxes: $2,259.29; Interest: $1,523.57; Liens & Fees: $236.00. Total Submitted to Treasurer to Date: $165,111.75. Current Taxes Collected: $160,966.24 representing 99.40%. Please review attached report for May 2021.

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

Treasurer's Report: The May 2021 report presents: A deposit of $1,946.00 was made from the Borough Zoning Office. There were no deposits made from Tax Collector, Jodie Enriquez. A deposit of $1,456.00 was made from Pullman & Comley (overpayment). A transfer of $11,300.00 was made to cover last month's invoicing. A transfer of $3,402.00 was transferred into the ISC Account from the Borough Operating Account. A transfer of $11,300.00 was transferred from the ISC Account to the Borough Operating Account. Interest on the 12 mo. CD was $16.83 making a total of $79,276.09. Please review attached report for May 2021.

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

Burgess Baiad made a motion to transfer $1,317.61 from Contingency to Fire Hydrants, seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Burgess Gaston made a motion to transfer $1,556.71 from Soldiers & Sailors to Fire Hydrants, seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Burgess Baiad made a motion to transfer $3,000.00 from Trees & Maintenance to Fire Hydrants, seconded by Burgess Gaston and unanimously approved.

Burgess Gaston made a motion to transfer $759.96 from Contingency to Office Supplies, seconded by Senior Burgess Gardner and unanimously approved.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer Sibley reported the Land Use office has been very busy processing permits. He also reported there were no ZBA or Zoning applications.

Historic District: Warden Maher presented a full size mockup of the proposed design for the Historic District Welcome sign. Burgess Gaston suggested the words, "Historic District" be decreased allowing the "Borough of Newtown" to be enlarged as a means to improve its legibility. There was also discussion of how best to secure the sign to the post to minimize theft of the signs. Warden Maher will make adjustments based on the discussion and then present the sign to the Historic District for approval.

Burgess Gaston reported there was a third and final hearing regarding the fence at 32 Main Street. The fence was identified as a western round fence, not split rail and was not deemed historically accurate to the period of the house and that of their neighbor. The Historic District regulations did acknowledge financial hardship through no fault of the owners. The Historic Landscaper presented five options to address the fence. Planting hedges was agreed upon by the homeowners and the Historic District Commission agreed with a vote of 4 to 1.

Sidewalks: Warden Maher reported repair has begun on the 4,000 sf of sidewalk in front of the Edmond Town Hall heading north to 65 Main Street and will be completed by June 30, 2021. Warden Maher also reported the set of drawings for the Sugar Street project has been received. He will be reviewing the drawings with the Ad Hoc Sidewalk Committee at their next meeting.

Streets & Parks: Senior Burgess Gardner reported the painting of the flagpole has been completed. The painting was funded by town Flagpole Maintenance Fund. He further reported lights facing up and down are in good working order. The summer flag has also been raised. The flag was funded through donations, the Newtown Lion's Club and the Newtown Hardware Store. There was wonderful attendance at the changing of the flag. It was suggested the annual event become a community event. Burgess Lucas inquired if an engineer assessed if below the road surface the flagpole is structurally safe. Senior Burgess Gardner will be contacting DOT engineering to assess the flagpole. Warden Maher wanted to acknowledge the amazing work the Town & Country Garden Club has achieved on islands 1, 2 and 3.

New Business: Burgess Baiad reported grass/weeds are obstructing the line of sight at the stop sign on the corner of Budd Drive and The Boulevard. Warden Maher will contact the Highway Department to have the Right of Way cut. Warden Maher also reported the Highway Department will be painting the yellow lines on The Boulevard by the close of June.

Old Business: None.

Public Participation: None.

The regular meeting of the Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7:30p.m. It will be determined prior to the meeting if the meeting will be virtual vs. in person at Edmond Town Hall.

There being no further business, Burgess Gaston made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m., seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Scaia
Borough Clerk

A recording of the meeting may be found here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/ueoPF6anNN0lktHHI82akDZSXQtmMDaBDKN1gyzc5z3aB_jWkqer4saXtrg1PDUE.Np9OiHCJrcr7L1Qq

NEWTOWN BOROUGH TAX

MONTHLY REPORT FOR: **MAY 2021**

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

AMOUNTS COLLECTED TO DATE:

CURRENT TAX:	$161,092.89
BACK TAX	$2,259.29
INTEREST:	$1,523.57
LIENS & FEES:	$236.00
TOTAL COLLECTED TO DATE:	**$165,111.75**

TOTAL SUBMITTED TO TREASURER TO DATE:	**$164,963.76**
REFUND GIVEN FROM CURRENT YR TAX	$147.99
REFUND GIVEN DUE FROM PRIOR YR	**$0.00**
	$165,111.75

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	**$160,966.24**	99.40%
	UNCOLLECTED TAXES	**$965.66**	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:
6-Jun-21

SIGN: *Jodie Enriquez*
BOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR

BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN

Treasurer's Report

Month Ending May 31, 2021

		ACCOUNT 673 Operating Account	ACCOUNT 2470-D Insured Cash Sweep	TOTAL
BEGIN 5/1/2021		$250,010.96	$339,342.86	$589,353.82
Interest Transfer		-$10.96	$10.96	$0.00
Transfer to Clerk's Account	check #305	-$11,300.00		-$11,300.00
Transfer in from ICS acct		$11,300.00	-$11,300.00	$0.00
Deposit from Bldg/Zoning and Misc.		$1,946.00	$0.00	$1,946.00
Pullman Comley overpayment		$1,456.00	$0.00	$1,456.00
Deposit from Tax Collector	YTD:$164,900	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Transfer out to ICS Acct.		-$3,402.00	-$3,402.00	$0.00
Interest earned 5/31/2021		$9.93	$14.10	$24.03
ENDING BALANCE 5/31/2021		$250,009.93	$324,665.92	$574,675.85

		6 MONTH CD Account matures 9/10/2021
BEGIN 5/1/2021		$79,259.26
Interest earned 5/31/2021	.25 APY	$16.83
ENDING BALANCE 5/31/2021		$79,276.09

Respectfully submitted 6/8/21