

**BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on **Tuesday, September 12, 2017** in the Borough Office at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT. Warden Gaston called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m.

Present: Warden James Gaston, Second Senior Burgess Jay Maher, Burgess Chris Gardner, Burgess Bill Lucas, Burgess Betsy Kenyon, Treasurer Paula Brinkman, Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez, Zoning Officer Maureen Crick Owen and Clerk Ann Scaia

Absent: Senior Burgess Joan Crick, Burgess Anthony Baiad and Tree Warden Rob McCulloch

Also Present: 6 members of the public.

Burgess Gardner made a motion to accept the August 8, 2017 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Burgess Kenyon. Motion passed.

Public Participation: Dennis O'Connor and his wife Kimberly O'Connor, of 7 Baldwin Road, returned to propose a sidewalk down Rt. 302 from the police station towards Boggs Hill Road. Since the August Borough meeting, they were able to secure 237 signatures from residents in favor of sidewalks down Rt. 302. Warden Gaston requested the list of signatures to copy for his files. The proposal suggested the sidewalk continue from the new sidewalk created at the bridge running alongside the police station. It was also discussed perhaps the other side of the road would have more roads feeding into Rt. 302. Mrs. O'Connor supports the most economical solution stating either side of the road would be acceptable. Warden Gaston requested Second Senior Burgess Maher to acquire estimates comparing pricing for different materials and to present them at the October Borough meeting.

Harvey Pessin, of 59 Main Street, expressed his concerns about the fire siren located at the Edmond Town Hall. It had been inoperable for a period of time however it has recently been repaired and sounds off multiply times a day. He presented his concerns at the monthly meeting of the fire chiefs and spoke with various town Fire Marshalls. He stated the new Fire Marshall of the Newtown Hook and Ladder is proposing the fire siren be utilized for house fires and when someone needs to be cut out of a car. Mr. Pessin would be satisfied with the proposal stated above and was hoping the officials of the Borough could help him with his concerns. Warden Gaston stated he would communicate Mr. Pessin's concerns/views to the appropriate parties at the Newtown Hook and Ladder.

Ms. Sherry Bermingham, of 42 Main Street, also conveyed safety concerns regarding the fire siren. She has witnessed motorists pulling over at the sound of the siren and then attempting to re-emerge into busy traffic.

She too requested Warden Gaston convey her concerns to the Newtown Hook and Ladder. Secondly, she requested the crosswalk sign be replaced just north of the flagpole. Warden Gaston agreed to contact the police commissioner regarding the matter.

Warden's Report: Warden Gaston attended the town Zoning Board of Appeals and presented written materials on behalf of the Borough and the ordinance mentioned during the annual meeting and the issues related to it. He will also attend the next town Zoning Board of Appeals on 9/23. Warden Gaston will also be attending the Borough Zoning Commission meeting on 9/13 and will put on the record his view that the village district does not have the authority over the historic district,

Tree Warden: Rob McCulloch reported via email there are a couple work orders he will attending to by close of this week. There also are a couple of stumps to grind along with a few locations for tree plantings. He recommended we wait on planting new trees until the number of trees needed grows. In the past he has received greater discounts on larger purchases from Planter's Choice. Currently Rob will secure permission to plant and work on the following locations: 18 Main Street, 23 Main Street, 40 Main Street and 38 US-6 (corner of Main Street and Church Hill Road). He will also investigate the need of trees further down Main Street. Lastly he suggested planting monies be utilized for pruning of trees along Main Street.

Tax Collector's Report: Tax Collector Enriquez reported the following for August 2017: Total Taxes Due for the List of 2016: \$188,993.63; Current Taxes: \$180,278.51; Back Taxes: (\$1,188.70); Interest: \$413.93; Liens & Fees: \$48.00. Total Submitted to Treasurer to Date: \$171,600.00. Current Taxes Collected: \$180,278.51 representing 95.3%.

Burgess Kenyon made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report for August 2017, seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Paula Brinkman read the August 2017 report: A \$135,700.00 deposit was made from Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez making a total of \$171,600.00. A transfer of \$4,800.00 was made to cover last month's invoicing. Interest on the 15 mo. CD was \$72.58 making a total of \$74,738.64.

Burgess Lucas made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for August 2017, seconded by Burgess Gardner and unanimously approved.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Office Owen discussed addressing temporary signs. She plans to be proactive in communicating in advance with parties regarding the posting of signs for events. She also will be establishing parameters/rules on the length of time a temporary sign may be displayed that is fair and beneficial for all involved. Sandy Hook Promise will be moving to 13 Church Hill Road. Newtown Savings Bank applied for a building permit to refit the inside of their offices on Main Street. Upon review, it was determined this is not a zoning project since the work is occurring on the interior of the building. Borough Zoning of Appeals approved a setback for a 2 car garage for 29 West Street. Borough Zoning of Appeals also concluded a variance was not necessary for a proposed 2 car garage for 13 Main Street. The Borough Zoning Commission meeting on 9/13 will determine whether this property is required to also submit an application to the Village District. Zoning Office Owen received an anonymous complaint about the police dog training occurring at 19 Main Street (Inn at Newtown). She heard further discussion of the police dog training at the Board of Selectman meeting on 9/5. Chief Viadero asked the Board of Selectman if they could use the old Newtown Hook and Ladder building instead. The Board of Selectman approved a temporary agreement pending a license agreement, not lease agreement, with the Police Department. It was also agreed there will be no liability to the town. There was also an inquiry about chairs and tables in front of Dere Street. She will address and rectify as needed the situation. On September 23, Dental Associates, Avance Spa and Market Place are having an open house. On October 8, the VNA will hold an event honoring Jim Juliano and Jean St. Jean. Newtown Savings Bank on Church Hill Road is looking for a temporary C.O. (certificate of occupancy) so they move into the new building. They have a preview party scheduled for invited guests on 9/18. They are moving on 9/23 and will be open for business on 9/25.

Warden Gaston made a motion to appoint Palmer Chiappetta as Alternate of the Borough Zoning Commission, seconded by Senior Burgess Betsy Kenyon and unanimously approved.

Historic District: Burgess Kenyon reported a permit for a fence and a re-application for a shed was approved for 79 Main Street. They are also awaiting signage applications from Trinity Church and Newtown Hook and Ladder.

Sidewalks: Second Senior Burgess Maher reported he received a letter from John and Sarah Phillips, of 35 Main Street, entertaining a motion to replace the sidewalk in front of their property. Second Senior Burgess Maher calculated the proposed area to be 90 linear feet with an estimated cost of \$8,000-9,000 to replace. He stated in should be addressed within the next two years. Mr. Pessin suggested investigating environmentally friendly pervious product. Warden Gaston requested Second Senior Burgess Maher obtain a cost estimate for various materials to be reviewed at the next Borough meeting.

Streets & Parks: Senior Burgess Maher had nothing new to report.

New Business: None.

Old Business: Paula Brinkman was reviewing checks from the last fiscal year and noticed a check for \$4,500 earmarked for an exit 10 Newtown signs. She asked where the signs were posted. Warden Gaston will inquire with Land Use to ascertain the sign's status.

Public Participation: None.

The regular meeting of the Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 7:30p.m. in the Borough Office in Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT.

There being no further business, Burgess Lucas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.,
seconded by Burgess Gardner and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Scaia
Borough Clerk

Borough of Newtown
 Newtown, CT
 Monthly Treasurer's Report
 For month ending August 31, 2017

Beginning Balance (August 1, 2017) \$388,892.27

OPERATING ACCOUNT (#673)

Income (Deposits)

Date	Description	Amount
Aug 9, 2017	Maureen C. Owen (BZE)	\$3,398.67
Aug 10, 2017	Tax Collector (YTD: \$171,600)	\$135,700.00
Aug 10, 2017	Maureen C. Owen (BZE)	\$1,005.72

Interest income (August 31, 2017) \$20.70

Total Income \$140,125.09

Expenses (checks written)

Date	Payable To	Description	Amount
August 10, 2017	Treasurer's Acct (331)	check #247	\$4,800.00

Total Expenses \$4,800.00

Ending Cash Balance (August 31, 2017) \$524,217.36

Outstanding Checks	Payable To	Description	Amount
	Total Outstanding Checks		\$0.00

RECONCILED BANK BALANCE (August 31, 2017) \$524,217.36

15 MONTH CD ACCOUNT (#814) matures 1/28/18 **\$74,666.06**

Interest income (August 31, 2017) \$72.58
interest 1.15%

TOTAL \$74,738.64

Respectfully submitted on September 12, 2017

NEWTOWN BOROUGH TAX

MONTHLY REPORT FOR: AUGUST 2017

TOTAL TAXES DUE FOR GRAND LIST 2016: \$188,993.63

AMOUNTS COLLECTED TO DATE:

CURRENT TAX:	\$180,278.51
BACK TAXES:	(\$1,188.70)
INTEREST:	\$413.93
LIENS & FEES:	\$48.00

TOTAL COLLECTED TO DATE: ✓ \$179,551.74

CURRENT REFUNDS: \$1,346.47

TOTAL SUBMITTED TO TREASURER TO DATE: \$171,600.00

TAX COLLECTION SUMMARY:

CURRENT TAXES COLLECTED:	✓ \$180,278.51 ✓	95.3%
OVERPAYMENTS:	(\$180.65)	
CURRENT TAXES PENDING:	✓ \$8,534.47 ✓	4.5%

NOTE:

BACK TAXES OUTSTANDING FOR LIST 2015 AND PRIOR: \$2,070.08

DATE:
12-Sep-17

SIGN: _____
BOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR