

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 3 PRIMROSE STREET, NEWTOWN, CT
January 18, 2023**

Regular Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Jeffrey Capeci, Phil Carroll, William DeRosa, Charles Gardner, Chris Gardner, Dan Honan, Lisa Kessler, Tom Long, Ryan Knapp, Michelle Embree Ku, Matthew Mihalcik

ABSENT: Angela Duri

ALSO PRESENT: First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, Finance Director Bob Tait

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Capeci called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 pm. Mr Capeci recessed the meeting to return to the public hearing. Mr Capecci reconvened the meeting at 7:45.

VOTER COMMENT: none

MINUTES: Charles Gardner moved to accept the minutes of the January 4, 2023 Legislative Council Regular Meeting. Seconded by Matt Mihalcik. Approved

COMMUNICATIONS: attached

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education Committee –

Finance Committee –

Municipal Operations Committee –

Ordinance Committee – public hearing held and will address under old business

American Rescue Plan – spoke of \$50,000 for each of the five fire departments, items approved will be addressed under new business

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion and Possible Action

Mr Knapp moved to repeal Code Book Ch 144 – Fracking with Mr DeRosa 2nd.

This ordinance went through due to states lack of action. DEP contacted the town it is against state statute. The stste statute preempts the town ordinance. We are not permitted to operate under Municipal ordinance State prevails.

Discussion on why this was not brought to the Ordinance Committee prior to the public hearing.. State passed a statewide prohibition. Chris Gardner is opposed to the repeal.

Ms Ku stated that it took years to pass these ordinances yet they are being repealed in a few meetings. Was the full ordinance posted in the Bee prior tto the public hearing?

There is concern over having an ordinance that cannot be enforced.

Motion passes 8-3 (Ms Ku, Chris Gardner, Mr Honan opposed)

Mr Knapp moved to return Code Book Ch 124 – Elections to Ordinance Committee for more research after hearing from Town Attorney. 2nd by Charles Gardner.

Ms Ku wants to leave as is and follow the advise of the Town Attorney.

Motion passes 10-1 (Ms Ku)

Mr Knapp moved to repeal Code Book Ch 183 – Reusable Checkout Bag Initiative. Mr Carroll 2nd.

There was a review of the history of the bag ban. Stop and Shop as well as Big Y have chosen to charge the 10 cents per paper bag across the state. State Statute prohibits plastic bags under certain weight. Ordinance is pro business. Government should not be telling merchants what to charge. Choice is offered this is about personal responsibility. We pay for our own choices, This ban was well accepted and thoroughly researched.

Plastic ban from the state was not in effect and now it is so we don't need one.

Newtown's ordinance covers a further reach of required businesses. No businesses came to the public hearing or wrote to complain about the fee.

Ordinances are reactive not proactive if there is a complaint about non compliance it is investigated. The town does not go out looking for non compliance. There were no complaints about non compliance.

Why remove deterrent to using paper bags since paper bags are worse for the environment?

This ordinance was instrumental in getting a statewide ban. Why abandon the communities work?

Discussion on thickness and prohibitions.

This state statute does not prohibit stronger ordinances.

Approved 6-5 (Ms Ku, Chris Gardner, Mr Long, Mr Mihalcik, and Mr Honan)

Discussion Only

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and Possible Action

Charles Gardner moved “The Town of Newtown identifies First Selectman Daniel C Rosenthal, and states that said official is authorized to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents necessary tot obtsin a 2023 Neglected Cemetary Grant through CT Office of Policy and Management (OPM), should the town be selected for a grant award. 2nd by Ms Kessler.

Mr Rosenthal explained that Tauton Cemetary is in line for this grant. It is given annually.

Approved

Charles Gardner moved to approve the American Rescue Plan \$260,000 appropriation relative to Public Works trucks and safety improvements at the Fairfield Hills Campus as per attached documents. 2nd by Mr Mihalcik.

Discussion on the number of trucks, problems during use, salt damage and snowstorms. Discussion on maintenance and refurbishing to extend life of equipment.

Approved

No action was necessary on the transfer.

Charles Gardner made a motion to refer the Review of Debt Service and Capital Non Recurring Policies to the Finance and Administration Committee. 2nd by Mr Mihalcik

Approved

Discussion Only

VOTER COMMENT: none

ANNOUNCEMENTS: none

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr Honan moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Mr Long. Meeting was adjourned at 9:02pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
LeReine Frampton, Clerk*

Attachments

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AT THE NEXT MEETING. ANY EDITS
WILL BE REFLECTED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT MEETING**



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:40 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Betsy Litt via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Sun, Jan 8, 2023 at 15:17
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Sunday, January 8, 2023 - 3:17pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:797f:5b00:f8e2:b9e4:f221:f20a
Submitted values are:

Your name: Betsy Litt
Your e-mail address: betsy Litt@gmail.com
Subject: Please don't repeal fracking waste and plastic bag bans!

Message:

When Newtowners are asked why they love living here, we say we love our beautiful woods, meadows and marshes. So why on earth would the Legislative Council be considering repealing the bans on fracking waste and single use plastic bags?

Although there are similar state statutes, Newtown's ordinances are stronger and more protective. Our fracking waste ban, which the Legislative Council passed unanimously in 2018, includes a requirement that contractors sign a statement saying they won't use any fracking waste in the work they do for our town, and also includes penalties for infractions. Many of us get our water from wells; do we really want to run the risk of having hazardous fracking waste seeping into our water?

Newtown's carefully researched ban on single use plastic bags is also stronger than the state statute. We prohibit thicker plastic bags, which also end up being discarded, and we impose a 10 cent charge for paper bags, which also have a major environmental cost. This ordinance has been a remarkable success. Just as we've continued to patronize Costco even though they don't bag what we buy, so have Newtown shoppers and businesses adjusted to reusable bags. Do we really want to go back to having unsightly discarded bags lining our streets and in our woods and swamps?

There's no reason to repeal these 2 ordinances. They both offer added protection for us and for the green spaces we love. Please tell the Legislative Council: don't put our beautiful town at risk! Don't repeal the fracking waste and plastic bag ban ordinances!

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157656>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:40 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Edward Randall via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Sun, Jan 8, 2023 at 15:21
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Sunday, January 8, 2023 - 3:21pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:797f:5b00:5c8b:c73:c5a4:4118
Submitted values are:

Your name: Edward Randall
Your e-mail address: edwardnrandall@icloud.com
Subject: Keep our ordinances intact!

Message:

The town ordinance known as the bag ban should not be repealed. It has been effective at stopping the mess on the sides of Newtown streets. It's popular, and is not seen as a problem by most people or businesses in town. A few years ago, walking down a street in Newtown, I couldn't help but think that some sloppy person thought they were at the transfer station. Plastic bags were everywhere! We looked like a big city or an off ramp from a major highway. What a relief it's been to have Newtown look like a beautiful small town again! The garbage loving people who didn't want clean streets in the first place want us to go back to seeing yucky plastic everywhere.

The ten cent charge on paper bags is a frail excuse for eliminating the ban. I've heard no one complain about it; it's simply not a burden. Businesses haven't left Newtown. The idea that people are traveling to shop in another town so they can come back and throw out their litter in plastic bags is a joke. People I know have adopted a pleasant reusable bag habit. I love my reusable bags; they stay nice and clean. Some of them provide free advertising for the companies, so they're good for business.

The state ban allows the use of thicker bags, which are often discarded after a single use. If we stick to our own ordinance, we won't have to return to seeing ugly plastic litter everywhere.

Let's keep this good, popular commitment to our environment, and not foolishly abandon an important guideline to help maintain our town's character. Let's keep our plastic bag ban/clean street ordinance!

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157661>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:39 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "David H Ackert via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Sun, Jan 8, 2023 at 23:07
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Sunday, January 8, 2023 - 11:07pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:627f:e9e0:7148:facb:474d:b0a9
Submitted values are:

Your name: David H Ackert
Your e-mail address: dave@daveackert.com
Subject: Do Not Repeal Our Local Environmental Protection Ordinances
Message:

Why on our still-green Earth would anyone want to repeal our local environmental protection laws?

If you think the extreme storms we've experienced lately are bad now, just wait. If you are tired of all the power outages now, just wait. If you think Eversource's delivery prices are out of control now, just wait.

As the owner of a local maple syrup company, my livelihood depends on the existence of healthy trees and predictable, less extreme weather patterns. As human beings, all of our lives, and those who come after us depend on those things as well.

You should be working to make our local environmental protections stronger, not weaker. Existing State laws regulating our local forests, the local use of single-use bags, and the local impacts from fracking are all weaker than our local ordinances. It was misguided in 2018-19 when some of you said our plastic bag ban would hurt local businesses...it didn't. These proposals are misguided too.

Please do the right thing here.

Dave Ackert
6 Cider Mill Rd
Sandy Hook, CT 06482

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157666>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:39 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Chuck Wyatt via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Tue, Jan 10, 2023 at 7:48
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 - 7:48am
Submitted by anonymous user: 24.151.91.106
Submitted values are:

Your name: Chuck Wyatt
Your e-mail address: cewyattjr@gmail.com
Subject: Plastic bag ban
Message:

Dear Council -- I moved to Newtown in August of 2020. One of the qualities that I immediately appreciated about this area is the natural beauty of public land facilities. My wife Andrea and I enjoy local hiking, and the absence of plastic bag trash has been notable. As former resident of RI, I don't miss seeing plastic bags caught up in trees or by the highway or strewn along the Pootatuck.

Repealing the ordinance that helps support the health and beauty of our local environment would be a travesty.

Introducing plastic bags into our local environment isn't just an eyesore however. I urge the committee to review how these bags are actually a danger to human and animal life: not just an "eyesore."

>>The plastic typically used in bottles, bags and food containers contains chemical additives such as endocrine disruptors, which are associated with negative health effects including cancers, birth defects and immune system suppression in humans and wildlife.<<

>>

It takes 1,000 years for a plastic bag to degrade in a landfill. Unfortunately, the bags don't break down completely but instead photo-degrade, becoming microplastics that absorb toxins and continue to pollute the environment.

<<

Please consider these facts before making a decision that would negatively impact the beauty of Newtown and the health of its citizens and wildlife.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157681>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:38 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Dawn Handschuh via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Tue, Jan 10, 2023 at 11:51
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 - 11:50am
Submitted by anonymous user: 32.212.142.69
Submitted values are:

Your name: Dawn Handschuh
Your e-mail address: dawn303030@yahoo.com
Subject: Plastic Bag Ban

Message:

As a resident of Newtown, I am writing today to signify my support for keeping the existing plastic bag ban IN PLACE, including the .10 charge on paper bags.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157691>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:38 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Heather Dean via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Tue, Jan 10, 2023 at 13:19
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 - 1:19pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:797f:ab7b:341f:aa2f:3d11:8e2e
Submitted values are:

Your name: Heather Dean
Your e-mail address: heatherdean2012@gmail.com
Subject: Don't Repeal the Single-Use Plastic Bag Ban
Message:

I understand that the Newtown Legislative Council is considering repealing their Single-Use Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance that was unanimously passed in 2018. Please don't.

Prior to moving to Sandy Hook, I lived in Fairfield, CT and served for many years on the local legislative body. In 2009, with a bi-partisan group, we put forward a comprehensive reusable bag ordinance (single use plastic bag ban) that regrettably failed for all the "what about" and "what if" reasons that were never substantiated. It took 10 more years of data collecting, discussions, and 10 years of continued pollution of our water, air and land, before we could convince the whole body to support banning single-use plastic bags in our town. It passed unanimously in 2019. This was similar to the Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance in Newtown, that passed unanimously in 2018.

Soon after, Connecticut stepped up and banned single use plastic bags which bolstered local ordinances. Again, none of the "what about" and "what if" reasons were ever substantiated since the ban went into place, and people understand to bring their own bags when shopping. The ordinance has not proven to be a hardship. It's helped the environment in substantial and meaningful ways. I couldn't imagine Fairfield going backwards to repeal an ordinance that's reinforcing what the state has mandated.

Now Newtown wants to repeal the current plastic bag ban as being redundant and unnecessary. It's as necessary as the handwashing signs in restrooms. Everyone knows it's the right thing to do and they serve as a helpful reminder. Local ordinances, such as the Single Use Plastic Bag Ban, help too. It's an extra layer of protection, reminding the public that Newtown cares about its resident's health and the environment as does the State of Connecticut. Repealing it is wrong, please don't.

Thank you,

Heather Dean
Sandy Hook, CT

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157696>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:33 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Robin Lynch via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Tue, Jan 10, 2023 at 16:42
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 - 4:42pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:627f:f9d9:91dd:cbd0:a9e:4a89
Submitted values are:

Your name: Robin Lynch
Your e-mail address: robinprn@yahoo.com
Subject: Hands off our Bans!
Message:

Newtown's Legislative Council is considering the repeal of 2 ordinances surrounding fracking waste and plastic bag usage.

Both of these ordinances were supported by the town of Newtown and are intentionally stricter than those at the State level. The purpose of these ordinances are to protect the values that the majority (if not all) Newtown residents hold dear, our wonderful town in its bucolic setting.

CT State Law currently "prohibits the receipt, collection, storage, treatment, transfer, selling, acquiring, handling, applying, processing, or disposal of waste from hydraulic fracturing." - Public Act No. 19-112. CGS Section 22a-472
If at any point in the future, the state of Connecticut repeals this law, Newtown will remain protected from the hazards of fracking waste. Residents with well water must be particularly vigilant that this ordinance remains because fracking waste could potentially contaminate well water which would most certainly depreciate property values.

The same argument holds true for the plastic bag ban. This ban has effectively removed a great deal of plastic bag waste from ending up in our waterways, on the roadsides and in our trees.

The Town of Newtown must join together to tell the Legislative Council to keep their hands off our bans!

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157706>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:33 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Holly Kocet via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Thu, Jan 12, 2023 at 12:58
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Thursday, January 12, 2023 - 12:58pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 24.151.68.53
Submitted values are:

Your name: Holly Kocet
Your e-mail address: Hollyk325@yahoo.com
Subject: Plastic Bag and Fracking Ordinances
Message:

Dear Legislative Council Members:

I am not in favor of repealing the Plastic Bag Ordinance that requires a ten (10) cent charge on paper bags. Discouraging the use of paper bags is important. Paper bags are costly to manufacture and the manufacturing process has a negative impact on the environment. Not to mention that these bags are often discarded after a single use. We need to be mindful that trash doesn't just magically disappear. It has to be dealt with somewhere, even if not in Newtown.

Residents have become accustomed to bringing reusable bags when shopping. The ten-cent charge is not unreasonable for those who forget to bring reusable bags and stores have complied without incident. I do believe the ten-cent charge is a reminder of an individual's responsibility and our Town's commitment for protecting and conserving our valuable resources now and in future.

I am also against repealing the Fracking Ban Ordinance. Newtown should not weaken our standards for keeping our town a great place to live. If, in future, state legislators make changes to further weaken fracking legislation, Newtown will suffer the consequences.

I urge you not to repeal the existing Plastic Bag Ban and Fracking Waste Ordinances.

Respectfully,
Holly Kocet, Conservation Commission Chair
2 Karen Boulevard
Newtown,
203-426-4303

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157746>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:32 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Robert Bowen via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Thu, Jan 12, 2023 at 13:08
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Thursday, January 12, 2023 - 1:08pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:627f:ef2b:10ef:e07:4760:7ec1
Submitted values are:

Your name: Robert Bowen
Your e-mail address: rbowenycp@yahoo.com
Subject: Opposition to Repeal of code boo 183 reusable checkout bag initiative

Message:

Hello,

I've been following the recent discounts by the LC to repeal this ordinance and want to provide my support that it should remain as is.

I think the ban does and will continue to support less waste in town. Also, the burden is minimal to both consumer and the businesses having heard no major opposition that would convince me otherwise that it needs to be removed. Although I certainly understand the need to simplify and streamline codes/laws/ordinances, I think this one needs to remain as is. Thank you for your consideration to keep this ordinance.

Best,

Robert Bowen
26 Turkey Roost Rd.
Sandy Hook

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157751>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:32 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Barbara Wojcik via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Sun, Jan 15, 2023 at 12:57
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Sunday, January 15, 2023 - 12:57pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 24.151.90.34
Submitted values are:

Your name: Barbara Wojcik
Your e-mail address: barbara.m.wojcik@gmail.com
Subject: Plastic Bag Ordinance

Message:

LC Members:

I'm in favor of Newtown's plastic bag ban ordinance as written and I ask that it be upheld to promote the utilization of reusable bags. Modest town actions mandating behavioral change and raising public awareness over an often casual neglect we continue to have toward our environmental impacts are worthwhile to me, including a paper bag charge. Relying on the minimal state ban on plastic bags as far enough for our town is but a piece of string and too low a bar to change behavior in the same way a 10 cent paper bag fee can motivate against stubborn personal patterns. Since businesses keep the revenue, I don't see this ordinance as a particular hardship.

I'm concerned that dismantling sensibly established ordinances because there are current votes to do so is a disappointing approach to town governance.

Thank you for consideration.

Barbara Wojcik
25 Horseshoe Ridge Road
Sandy Hook

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157781>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:32 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Laura Mitchell via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Sun, Jan 15, 2023 at 16:21
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Sunday, January 15, 2023 - 4:21pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 24.177.140.57
Submitted values are:

Your name: Laura Mitchell
Your e-mail address: lmitchell221@hotmail.com
Subject: Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance
Message:

To whom it may concern,

I am requesting not to repeal any part of the plastic bag ban ordinance including the 10-cent charge for paper bags at all local grocery/retail stores.

Sincerely,
Laura Mitchell
68 Great Ring Road

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157786>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:31 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Mary Carr via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Sun, Jan 15, 2023 at 16:39
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Sunday, January 15, 2023 - 4:39pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2001:5a8:60b:86c:5c74:dde6:207f:5862
Submitted values are:

Your name: Mary Carr
Your e-mail address: mmcarr56@yahoo.com
Subject: Keep the bag ban.

Message: Please keep the plastic bag ban in tact. I was present at the meetings when so many people spoke out in favor of the ban and was proud of our town for being an example of doing what can be done to lessen our collective impact plastics have on the environment. It made sense then and it still does. Sincerely, Mary Carr

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157791>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:31 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Christine St Georges via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Sun, Jan 15, 2023 at 18:42
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Sunday, January 15, 2023 - 6:42pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 96.32.10.130
Submitted values are:

Your name: Christine St Georges
Your e-mail address: scstgeorges@gmail.com
Subject: 10 cent fee for paper bag usage
Message:

Hello,

The importance of trees cannot be overstated to the health of our home planet. If the people of Newtown would like a paper bag, 10 cents is the least they should pay to have the convenience of bringing groceries to their car. It would be good if people were taught to show some thought before using natural resources. The ten cent charge reminds us that natural resources such as timber are to be respected and used sparingly. Our children will grow up and do what we do, so let's teach them not to take the environment for granted.

Respectfully,
Christine

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157796>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:31 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Sarah W. Middleleer via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Sun, Jan 15, 2023 at 21:59
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Sunday, January 15, 2023 - 9:59pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 66.189.74.255
Submitted values are:

Your name: Sarah W. Middleleer
Your e-mail address: swmiddleleer@gmail.com
Subject: Fracking Waste ordinance
Message:

To the Legislative Council:

I am writing to oppose the repeal of the fracking waste ordinance in chapter 144 in the code book. This ordinance is appropriate and helps to protect the health and safety of our residents, as well as the ecosystem we rely on. I do not want fracking waste to be used on our roads for snow removal or any other reason, because it will then end up washing into storm drains and into our watercourses. Many people in Newtown rely on well water, which is supplied by aquifers quite close to the soil surface. Contaminants like fracking waste, if spilled or leaked, or used for deicing, can very easily have serious detrimental effects on the drinking water supply of Newtown - not to mention the wildlife here. The state was correct to institute the state ban; Newtown should uphold that ban and be grateful for it.

Sincerely,
Sarah W. Middleleer
7 South Main St.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157811>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:31 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Chris Smith via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Mon, Jan 16, 2023 at 15:11
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Monday, January 16, 2023 - 3:10pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 68.112.242.196
Submitted values are:

Your name: Chris Smith
Your e-mail address: chrissmith.newtown@gmail.com
Subject: Do not repeal Plastic Bag ordinance
Message:

Please do not repeal Newtown's current plastic bag ban. As a previous Legislative Council member that dealt with this original issue under the ordinance committee, I am aware of the research that went into the ban, but also the care we took, as a group, to make the language work for everyone, business and individuals, in the town.

Given the state law, the only issue under consideration is the charge for use of paper bag's when someone doesn't bring their own. We debated this for a long time with the ordinance committee. There were two primary reasons for making this part of Newtown's ordinance.

1) The research told us that an overall ban will be more effective with even a small charge being assessed. Without the charge the research showed that people would simply rely more and more on the paper bags. Surprisingly, with just the smallest charge people would make the change.

2) We wanted to give businesses the chance to re-coup some of their cost for use of paper bags. It was as simple as that. We understood businesses have costs and this gave them a way to build a separate charge for folks that didn't want to follow the ban without building in a charge in their regular fixed expenses.

So currently we have a ban that is much more effective than the state one. It considers research to help drive non-use of plastic and paper, while also being business friendly. Why would we want to change that?

Thank you for your consideration.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157831>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:30 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Tulio E Lopez via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Mon, Jan 16, 2023 at 17:48
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Monday, January 16, 2023 - 5:48pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:623f:e818:b4a0:138:348f:f5b
Submitted values are:

Your name: Tulio E Lopez
Your e-mail address: telopez1@aol.com
Subject: Repeal Reconsideration

Message:

We kindly ask you to reconsider
the "Repeal of Code Book Ch 144 – Fracking," "Repeal of Code Book Ch 183 – Reusable Checkout Bag Initiative....let's
make Newtown the benchmark of Environmentally conscious Citizens. Respectfully, Isabel and Tulio E. Lopez
23 Franklin Court, Newtown CT

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157836>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:30 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Jennifer Killin via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Mon, Jan 16, 2023 at 18:31
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Monday, January 16, 2023 - 6:31pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 24.151.52.104
Submitted values are:

Your name: Jennifer Killin
Your e-mail address: jenkillin@yahoo.com
Subject: Plastic bag ban repeal

Message: Hello, I am writing in opposition to the Council's intent to repeal Newtown's plastic bag ban. Newtown's ordinance is stronger than the state ban, in that it requires a 10 cent fee for paper bags. This fee is crucial to the success of the ban, because without it, customers will just switch to paper. Paper bags are JUST AS BAD for the environment as plastic bags, and in fact have a larger carbon footprint. Newtown's ordinance, therefore, is BETTER than the state ban- it is not redundant. It has not caused businesses to lose money. Everyone has adjusted. So I cannot help but believe that the only reason the Council is seeking to repeal Newtown's plastic bag ban is to score political points, and that is disappointing and abhorrent beyond words.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157841>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:29 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Laura Miller via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Mon, Jan 16, 2023 at 19:18
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Monday, January 16, 2023 - 7:18pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:797f:e8f8:a470:b971:8d03:235d
Submitted values are:

Your name: Laura Miller
Your e-mail address: millerlaura926@gmail.com
Subject: Ordinances
Message:

It's never good practice for a legislature to repeal the acts of their predecessors unless there's a manifest injustice. It makes government look petty and only able to focus on tit-for-tat partisanship. We have no such injustice here. Once a legislature passes something, they are supposed to have acted in the name of all the people, not just in the name of the majority, otherwise these issues would never be settled.

I am submitting these comments as a private citizen, not as a member of the Board of Finance.

I am writing to ask the LC to consider dropping the repeal of the ordinances you have on your agenda. There is not a compelling reason to repeal them; in fact, there is little to no support for this effort. Please reconsider. Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157846>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:29 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Jordana Bloom via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Mon, Jan 16, 2023 at 19:29
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Monday, January 16, 2023 - 7:29pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:623f:cc66:4878:f538:32ea:63b6
Submitted values are:

Your name: Jordana Bloom
Your e-mail address: jordanabloom87@gmail.com
Subject: Please keep the Plastic Bag Ordinance

Message:

As a citizen and former LC member who worked hard to enact this ordinance I respectfully ask that you keep it in place!
It is beneficial to the environment and our community is better with it in place . Thank you,
Jordana Bloom

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157851>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:29 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Alison Plante via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Mon, Jan 16, 2023 at 20:35
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Monday, January 16, 2023 - 8:35pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 24.151.57.156
Submitted values are:

Your name: Alison Plante
Your e-mail address: alison.plante@gmail.com
Subject: Oppose repealing the Plastic Bag Ban and Fracking Ordinance
Message:

Legislative Council members,

I'm writing to oppose the potential repeal of the Plastic Bag Ban and the Fracking Ordinance. In both cases, repealing the existing ordinances would move Newtown backwards and be detrimental to its residents. Please refocus your efforts on passing an excellent budget that serves our residents instead of wasting valuable time removing these important, broadly popular protections.

(This perspective is my own and does not reflect that of the Newtown Board of Education, of which I am a member.)

Regards,
Alison Plante

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157856>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:29 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Don Lococo via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Mon, Jan 16, 2023 at 20:58
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Monday, January 16, 2023 - 8:58pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 32.212.137.147
Submitted values are:

Your name: Don Lococo
Your e-mail address: dlococo@newtownaction.org
Subject: In support of the Plastic Bag Ban

Message:

To Legislative Council Members:

The Newtown ordinance concerning the banning of plastic bags should not be repealed. The research performed and presentations given during Legislative Council meetings resulted in a well-written, comprehensive ordinance that encourages shoppers in Newtown to use reusable bags. The ordinance has stood the test of time.

Sincerely,

Don Lococo
27 Hi Barlow Rd.
Newtown, CT

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157861>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:28 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "richard s eigen via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Tue, Jan 17, 2023 at 7:34
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 - 7:34am
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:797f:78e3:9498:e28e:dbbc:d001
Submitted values are:

Your name: richard s eigen
Your e-mail address: reigen2316@gmail.com
Subject: plastic bag and fracking ordnance
Message:

I see you are about to repeal the above ordanances past by the last council recently. You are continuing to practice more of what divides our country. If you pass it the other side repeals it for no reason.
Richard S. Eigen 35 St George Pl Sandy Hook

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157866>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:28 PM

Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>

To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Mary Wilson via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>

To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>

Sent: Tue, Jan 17, 2023 at 8:56

Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 - 8:55am

Submitted by anonymous user: 68.191.45.80

Submitted values are:

Your name: Mary Wilson

Your e-mail address: mhgwilson17@gmail.com

Subject: Plastic Bag Ordinance

Message:

Please vote to keep the single-use plastic bag ban in effect. This ordinance is working well as I see almost everyone in the stores with their own shopping bags, significantly cutting down on a source of pollution. Also, the fee for buying a paper bag is appropriate and as far as I know is not a hardship on anyone. I see no reason to change this. Thank you for attention.

Mary Wilson

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157871>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:28 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Alex Villamil via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Tue, Jan 17, 2023 at 9:39
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 - 9:39am
Submitted by anonymous user: 212.145.226.69
Submitted values are:

Your name: Alex Villamil
Your e-mail address: prismhsptng@aol.com
Subject: Letter to the Legislative Council in Opposition to repealing of the Fracking Ordinance.
Message:

Dear Members of the Legislative Council,
I am writing in opposition of repealing the Fracking Ordinance. The fracking ordinance, primarily dealing with transportation, storage and use of waste materials passed 12 - 0 back in 2018. The ordinance requires contractors to sign a statement that says they will not use fracking waste materials while providing their service. The ordinance charges a penalty of \$250 per infraction and spells what steps a resident of Newtown can take to protect themselves. My concern is that, if the Connecticut statute that the Legislative Council is putting their faith on to protect our town is ever repealed, we will be left in an unnecessarily vulnerable position. We have solid, popular ordinance backed by the entire LC when it passed. With all the water wells that hold our drinking water -why even open the door to bringing fracking waste into our town? Our ordinance puts people on notice that use of hazardous fracking waste will not be tolerated and that they will be held accountable for any infraction. It is an added line of defense that protects the people in this town. This is the type of legislation that should be wholeheartedly supported not repealed. For the good of our town, and its residents. I urge the Legislative Council to reconsider repealing this ordinance.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157881>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:27 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Nancy Raymond via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Tue, Jan 17, 2023 at 15:26
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 - 3:26pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:623f:be7d:eda2:5296:7457:5f71
Submitted values are:

Your name: Nancy Raymond
Your e-mail address: nancyraymond54@gmail.com
Subject: Repeal of fracking waste and single-use plastic bags
Message: Please do not repeal the ordinances for single use plastic bags and fracking waste disposal. This would be a step backwards for protection of our environment.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157896>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:27 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Nancy K Crevier via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Tue, Jan 17, 2023 at 16:52
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 - 4:52pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 24.151.62.102
Submitted values are:

Your name: Nancy K Crevier
Your e-mail address: nancy@brushwithnature.com
Subject: plastic bag ordinance
Message:

Just last week I was walking across the parking lot at Caraluzzi's and observing people coming and going - and thought how easily our community has adapted to the plastic bag ban ordinance. If our small actions improve our town environment through the ban of single-use plastic bags waste and decrease paper bag use, hooray for us. I ask the LC to not repeal this ordinance in any manner. Don't look for a solution to a problem that doesn't exist. Thank you.
Nancy K. Crevier
19 Scudder Road, Newtown

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157901>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:26 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Judit DeStefano via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 8:00
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 - 8:00am
Submitted by anonymous user: 66.189.73.131
Submitted values are:

Your name: Judit DeStefano
Your e-mail address: judit.destefano@gmail.com
Subject: Bag Ordinance Repeal

Message:

In 2019, when I was a member of the LC and the Ordinance committee, we passed the ordinance you are now considering repealing. We knew at the time that a state ordinance was to be implemented.

We researched, considered, and debated.

We sought input from residents, economic development, and the business community.

We spent endless hours discussing the very things you are discussing today. And we came to the conclusion that the ordinance, as written and passed, was environmentally and fiscally in the best interest of our community.

The 10-cent bag charge which sets our town's legislation apart from the state's is still advantageous for all the reasons it was back then: (1) It's fair for shoppers choosing to bring reusable bags who don't have to bear the burden of increased costs should merchants offset the price of bags by raising costs store-wide. (2) It's better for the environment, deterring the use of paper bags. (3) It's better for businesses that don't have to absorb the cost of paper bags.

Please don't undo the progress we have made as a community.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your service to the town.

Judit DeStefano
12 Horseshoe Ridge Rd
Sandy Hook

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157906>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:25 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Keith D Alexander via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 15:42
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 - 3:42pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 144.121.233.70
Submitted values are:

Your name: Keith D Alexander
Your e-mail address: keith@mailalex.net
Subject: LC 1/18-voter comment-Repeal of Code Book Ch 183 – Reusable Checkout Bag Initiative
Message:

Hello Legislative Council Members,

Thank you for your time serving on the Council.

My quick comment on the Repeal of the Reusable Bag initiative is that it is fine as is. I gather some may be concerned that the 10 cents causes people to avoid buying in town but I don't believe that would be the case. In my home, we always shop at our local stores when possible and the only time the bag charge comes up is when I ask my son to take bags with him instead of paying for new each time at the grocery store.

I believe the initiative is still doing it's job and should be left in place.

Thank you--
--Keith Alexander
8 Fawnwood Road, Sandy Hook

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157926>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:25 PM

Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>

To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Theresa Ritchie via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>

To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>

Sent: Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 15:46

Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 - 3:46pm

Submitted by anonymous user: 68.191.49.131

Submitted values are:

Your name: Theresa Ritchie

Your e-mail address: tritchie48@gmail.com

Subject: Possible repeal of "The Reusable Checkout Bag Initiative."

Message:

I strongly urge the Legislative Council to keep the ordinance AS IS regarding the ban on reusable bags.

The reasons to change the ordinance are not strong enough. Keep this ordinance.

Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157931>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:25 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "karen banks via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 15:48
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 - 3:48pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 2600:6c65:623f:cc5e:6ca7:5e4f:269d:ef0c
Submitted values are:

Your name: karen banks
Your e-mail address: karenveebanks@gmail.com
Subject: Fracking and Reusable Checkout Bags Meeting Jan. 18, 2023

Message:

We are sorry that we cannot be there tonight, but wanted to express our opinions. Based upon the responses in the Bee, we believe there may be lots of confusion on the part of members of the public.

Our feelings are: the State of Ct seems to have regulations regarding Fracking so if our ordinance is not any more restrictive than the State's, we agree to just repeal ours.

In relation to the Reusable Checkout Bags, leave our ordinance in place. It seems like all is working and let the retailers get the \$0.10/paper bag. Seems like a "no brainer".

Seems like there is nothing to fix!

Thank you for the hard work and time you put in for the meetings and the behind the scene work.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157936>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:24 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Cathy Reiss via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 9:16
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 - 9:16am
Submitted by anonymous user: 66.189.72.20
Submitted values are:

Your name: Cathy Reiss
Your e-mail address: clreiss@charter.net
Subject: Please repeal Fracking and Bag Ban/Fee ordinances
Message:

Dear Legislative Council members,

Thank you for spending time ensuring our ordinances are valid and serving the town well. I'd like to comment on two of the ordinances that are the subject of tonight's public hearing.

First, the fracking ordinance—that's an easy one—the state has preempted our local ordinance with their fracking statute, so our local ordinance should be repealed.

Second, Newtown's plastic bag ban / paper bag fee ordinance. I was never in favor of this ordinance, since it's not the role of government, especially our local government, to "encourage" behaviors of its residents by the force of law on its businesses.

That being said, our local ordinance is now almost moot, anyway. The state has banned plastic bags, so Newtown's plastic bag ban serves no purpose. Newtown's two largest grocery stores have company policies to charge 10 cents for paper bags, since they're no longer allowed to provide inexpensive plastic bags. So, Newtown's paper bag fee is moot for arguably the largest potential providers of checkout bags.

Basically, this ordinance now only serves to be a burden on Newtown's smaller locally-owned retailers and nonprofits, forcing them to charge their customers a fee for providing them a paper bag in which to carry their purchases. Otherwise, these merchants are threatened with a \$100 fine per infraction. This is in addition to the burden on residents and visitors who might not have their own stash of bags with them as they shop.

Also, there really is no enforcement mechanism, and if there was, it could be quite costly to taxpayers. An ordinance without a way to enforce it is useless.

Please vote to repeal this ordinance and let our merchants and non-profits decide for themselves how to best provide service to their customers.

Sincerely,
Cathy Reiss
Newtown, CT

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157911>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Fw: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

1 message

Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
Reply-To: Jeffrey Capeci <Jeff@thecapecis.com>
To: Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 10:23 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "CareySchierloh via Newtown CT" <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
To: "jcapeci" <jeff@thecapecis.com>
Sent: Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 18:35
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the Newtown Legislative Council

Submitted on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 - 6:35pm
Submitted by anonymous user: 174.138.32.68
Submitted values are:

Your name: CareySchierloh
Your e-mail address: cschierloh@gmail.com
Subject: Ordinances

Message: Hello, I'm writing regarding the plastic bag and fracking ordinances. The Council was proactive in protecting the town environment when enacting these ordinances. The state had no laws in place regarding these issues. Since then, the state has passed laws on plastic bags and fracking waste and therefore the ordinances are unnecessary and redundant. I do not see why people want to keep these ordinances unless they are uninformed or are using for political purposes. Please repeal.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/node/86983/submission/157951>



Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Neglected Cemetery Grant - please add to 1/17 BOS meeting agenda

1 message

Christal Preszler <christal.preszler@newtown-ct.gov>

Tue, Jan 10, 2023 at 11:39 AM

To: Jeff Capeci <jeff@thecapecis.com>, Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>

Cc: Kimberly Chiappetta <kimberly.chiappetta@newtown-ct.gov>

Jeff and Lereine,

As required by the 2023 Neglected Cemetery Account Grant Program Guidelines, the Legislative Council needs to authorize Dan Rosenthal to execute the application requesting funds (see below for details.....)

- The municipality must submit certified minutes of the meeting of its legislative body which:
 - identifies the Chief Executive Official by name and title, and states that said official is authorized to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents necessary to obtain said grant should the town be selected for a grant award. For embossed certification stamps that do not contain ink, please darken the embossed stamp with graphite so that it can be seen when the document is scanned/copied.

The plan is to apply for funds to improve Taunton Cemetery, 21 Taunton Lake Road.

Please pass a resolution (if that is the appropriate step) as follows:

The Town of Newtown identifies First Selectman Daniel C. Rosenthal, and states that said official is authorized to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents necessary to obtain a 2023 Neglected Cemetery Grant through CT Office of Policy and Management (OPM), should the town be selected for a grant award.

I would imagine it will require signatures on behalf of the LC also.

This email is to alert you to the need for this to be covered at the 1/18 LC meeting so that it can be added to the agenda if you agree. Should we need to provide a separate document for approval, just let us know, as well as who would sign on behalf of the LC.

Thanks! Let me know if you need any additional information, etc.

Christal

--

Christal Preszler
 Town of Newtown
 Deputy Director, Economic and Community Development
 3 Primrose Street
 Newtown, CT 06470
 203-270-4282



Newtown
 Economic and Community Development

christal.preszler@newtown-ct.gov

<https://newtown.org/>

<https://www.fairfieldhills.org/>

<https://www.newtownsandyhookeats.com/>

American Rescue Plan Working Group
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center
3 Primrose St Newtown Ct
Monday, December 12th 2022

Minutes

Present: Ed Schierloh, Sandy Roussas, Charles Gardner, Matthew Mihalcik & Michele Ku (joined at 6:52pm)

Also Present: First Selectman Dan Rosenthal & Finance Director Bob Tait

Call to Order: Dan Rosenthal called the meeting at 6:31 pm

Vote Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: Ed Schierloh mad a motion to approve the minutes from November 29th, 2022. Seconded by Sandy Roussas. All in Favor, motion passes (4-0)

Old Business:

Discussion and Possible action

1. Consideration of Remaining Requests for Funding

- a. Ed Schierloh moved that we make a recommendation to the Board of Selectman to start the appropriation process for \$20,000 to fund Fairfield Hills Campus Safety Improvements. Seconded by Charles Gardner. Mr Rosenthal presented the supplemental sheet, costs have come in lower than originally budgeted for at \$50,000. He also mentioned that if we didn't used ARP funds it would be funded from the operating budget. All in favor, motion passes (4-0)
- b. Ed Schierloh moved that we make a recommendation to the Board of Selectman to start the appropriation process for \$240,000 to fund Public Works 6-wheel 8 ton Dump Truck. Seconded by Sandy Roussas. Ms Roussas asked what another potential funding source would be. Mr Rosenthal said that it would be saved for over multiple years and then funding from capital non-recurring. Ms Roussas asked if there is any though the trucks might be cheaper if we waited. Mr Rosenthal said no costs continue to increase as well as wait times for vehicles and equipment. Mr Gardner asked how many plow trucks are in the fleet. Mr Rosenthal said there are (12) 6-wheel trucks, (6)10-wheel trucks and (9) 550s in the plow fleet. The truck being replaced is 24 years old which is the oldest in the fleet and suffers from serious body/frame rot. The model was discontinued many years ago and certain parts are no longer available. Ms Roussas mentioned that this seems to be a need to have very a nice to have item in the fleet. Mr Schierloh mentioned that it is also have a safety concern. Mr Rosenthal mentioned that the public works fleet manager does a good job repairing trucks as he can but the salt is so corrosive there is only so much that can be done. There are also 4 trucks listed in poor condition in the fleet but have better bodies on the trucks. All in favor, motion passes (4-0)
- c. Sandy Roussas moved to approve the \$175,000 for Board of Fire Commissioners for discussion purposes. Seconded by Charles Gardner. Ms Roussas reviewed the requests by each department and asked if there is an equitable way to fund all 5 departments. She mentioned some of the projects look more like safety concerns than nice to have items, exhaust system,

roof repairs and paving projects but it leaves some departments without funding. Ms Roussas asked if the items costs been verified. Mr Rosenthal did not know but offered to have Public Works look at the paving projects and see if there is a way that Public Works can help offset some of the cost. Mr Rosenthal also mentioned that the Town has not traditional helped the departments with infrastructure costs in the past as the departments own their own buildings. Mr Rosenthal also mentioned that the Town does fund the purchase of some fire apparatus for each department. Ms Roussas asked if there are other funding sources for some of the requests. Mr Gardner mentioned that New Milford received a grant for an exhaust removal system. Michele Ku agreed with Mr Gardner that we should look at the requests on a need-based approach like we have with other request vs right sizing requests. Ms Roussas motioned to table to request for further research, review and discussion of Board of Fire Commissioners. Ed Schierloh Seconded, All in Favor (5-0)

Voter Comments: None

Adjournment: Ed Schierloh moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 pm. Seconded by Sandy Roussas, All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Mihalcik

**These minutes are subject to approval by the American Rescue Plan Working Group
at the next meeting**

Town of Newtown					
the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)					
ARP Working Group Worksheet					
					12/12/2022
ARP award amount		7,674,294			
Possible Uses:					
line	General Government:			<u>Recommended</u>	<u>Approved</u>
1	Fairfield Hills - Replace Water Distribution System	1,500,000	✓	1/27/2022	f
2	Fairfield Hills Campus Safety Improvements	50,000			
3	Edmond Town Hall Building Improvements	125,000	✓	9/22/2022	f
4	Public Works:				
5	Multi-purpose Building Roof	190,000	✓	1/27/2022	f
6	Public Works 6 Wheel 8 Ton Dump Truck	240,000			
7	Public Works Front & Bucket Loader	300,000	✓	7/28/2022	f
8	Transfer Station Site Improvements	200,000	✓	4/11/2022	f
9	Municipal Building Improvements	100,000	✓	4/11/2022	f
10	Sandy Hook Side Walks				
11	section #1 - Glen Road	215,000	✓	9/22/2022	f
13	Public Safety:				
14	Fire Commission Fire Suppression Tank Repair	50,000	✓	1/27/2022	f
15	Fire Company Grants (4 x \$15,000); NUSAR (\$15,000);	90,000	✓	1/27/2022	f
16	Ambulance (\$15,000)				
17	Board of Fire Commissioners (5 x \$25,000) + \$50,000 (training)	175,000			
18	Recreation & Leisure:				
19	Parks & Recreation Truck with lift gate	90,000	✓	4/11/2022	f
20	Treadwell Park Disc Golf Course	40,000			
21	Dickinson Park New Pavilion (Refurbishment)	150,000	✓	4/11/2022	f
22	Dickinson Park New Pavilion (Refurbishment) - add'l amount	50,000	✓	9/22/2022	f
23	Bike Park at Fairfield Hills	75,000	✓	9/22/2022	f
24	The Art Walk at Fairfield Hills	50,000			
25	Health & Welfare:				
26	Housing Stalization Fund	20,000	✓	9/22/2022	f
27	Senior/Community Center 14 passenger bus	90,000	✓	5/9/2022	f
28	COVID supplies/expenses	40,000	✓	1/27/2022	f
29	Child/Youth Enrichment Fund (Newtown Human Services Dept.)	20,000	✓	7/28/2022	f
30	Community Center:				
31	Community Center Generator (75,000)	<i>passed</i>			
32	Community Center Outside Storage Building	75,000	✓	4/11/2022	f
33	Community Center Patio	155,000	✓	4/11/2022	f
34	Community Center Outdoor Spray Features (200,000)	<i>passed</i>			
35	Community Center/Senior Center Handicap Doors	16,000	✓	4/11/2022	f
36	Education:				
37	Hawley School HVAC/Ventilation project	2,500,000	✓		f
38	Student Tutoring Support Program (Newtown Human Services Dept.)	100,000	✓	7/28/2022	f
39	BOE information technology licenses to address				
40	Function Wide:				
41	Reimburse the Town Medical Self Insurance Fund				
42	for COVID Expenses (since 3/3/2021)	325,000	✓	1/27/2022	f
					appropriated
Amount Available after Appropriated		1,198,294			6,476,000
Sum of grey highlight =		555,000			
✓ Recommended by the ARP Working Group. To go through the Town appropriation process (BOS/BOF/LC)					
f Appropriated by Legislative Council					

Tim Whelan
Fleet Foreman

203-270-4300
203-426-9968 Fax



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
4 Turkey Hill Road
Newtown, CT 06470

To: Bob Tait

From: Tim Whelan

Re: Justification for ARP funding

Date: May, 23 2022

Public Works respectfully request to replace a 1998 Ford L9500 6 wheel 8 ton dump truck/plow truck. This truck is an everyday used vehicle. Typical uses are in-house drainage jobs, paving, road sweeper and road grader support. It would also be used as a front line plow truck in the winter. We would spec out a heavy duty application that would serve our needs for 15 to 20 years. This 24 year truck is our oldest and suffers from serious frame/body rot and parts available. This model was discontinued many years ago and certain parts are unavailable.

Fairfield Hills ARPA Funds Request – Building Security

Goal: Securing buildings, installing or repairing fences to continue making the buildings less able to be accessed by trespassers. It is common knowledge that people access the buildings without permission on a regular basis.

It has been suggested by a resident who was startled by persons hiding behind bushes, that the brush be removed surrounding buildings, especially Cochran House, Kent House and Norwalk Hall.

Plan:

- Upon obtaining funding for the estimated necessary linear footage of fencing and gates, quotes will be obtained for items and installation.
- Public Works anticipates that they should be able to do brush trimming around Kent House, Cochran House and Norwalk Hall.
- Quotes will be requested for securing necessary open/unlocked windows and doors (expect it to be fewer than ten openings).

Noted Areas of Concern

Building	Side of building (from front)	Details	door
Cochran	Left side	Door may need to be secured	door
	Front left side of building, front of wing	Window open	Window
	Front of building, left interior area	missing fence, estimated 40 ft.	40
	Front of building, center interior area	missing fence, estimated 24 ft.	24
	Front of building, right interior area	missing fence, estimated 20 ft.	20
	Front of building, right corner	missing fence, estimated 90 ft.	90
	Right side of building, area to the left	missing fence, estimated 30 ft.	30
	Right side of building, area to the right	missing fence, estimated 30 - 40 ft.	40
	Back of building, area to the left	missing fence, small section	10
	Back of building, area to the right	open window	Window
	all around building	In corner of wing, door may need to be secured. Clear brush all around the building to provide visibility to the building.	door brush
Norwalk	Right side	repair fence	10
	Front of building, right side	open window	Window
	all around building	Clear brush all around the building to provide visibility to the building.	brush
Kent	Back of building, left side	3 sections of fence	30
	Back of building, extension right side	repair fence	10
	Front of building, left side	repair fence	10
	all around building	Clear brush all around the building to provide visibility to the building.	brush
		estimated ft of fence to be installed	314
		Window securing	3
		Door securing	2

Quote:

Purchase and install an estimated 350+ linear feet of 6' high chain link fence with three gates for vehicular access.

Due to the estimated timeline to either renovate Kent and Shelton Houses, or for CIP funds to be available to remediate and demolish certain buildings, it is recommended that the town purchase fencing vs. renting.

Based on an estimate of 350 linear feet of fencing and three vehicle gates, it is expected that the fencing will cost approximately \$15,000.

It is estimated that \$20,000 will cover the gaps in fencing and securing of windows and doors that was noted in examining the buildings.