

**BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on **Tuesday, August 14, 2012** in the Borough Office at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT. Warden Gaston called the meeting to order at 7:49 p.m.

Present: Warden James Gaston, Senior Burgess Joan Crick, Second Senior Burgess Jay Maher, Burgess Bill Lucas, Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez, Clerk Ann Benore

Absent: Burgess Anthony Baiad, Burgess Betsy Kenyon, Treasurer and Burgess Marie Walker, Zoning Officer Jean St. Jean

Also Present: Tree Warden Rob McCulloch, 2 members of the public

Senior Burgess Joan Crick made a motion to accept the July 10, 2012 regular meeting minutes. seconded by Burgess Bill Lucas and unanimously approved.

Public Participation: Jack and Deborah Moreno (23 Main Street) spoke about the poor condition of the sidewalk in front of their residence. A section of the sidewalk is being lifted by the roots of a tree near the road. Mrs. Moreno has already fallen once on the sidewalk. Senior Burgess Joan Crick made note of the fact the former owner did not want to put a new sidewalk in when the sidewalks were done years ago. Second Senior Burgess Jay Maher reported that the area was patched last October but it is still bumpy.

Second Senior Burgess Maher also reported that the section north of Edmond Town Hall needs to be done as well and he suggested that both projects could be done at the same time. He priced out the project as being approximately \$16,500. The other possible sidewalk project for this year is at the corner of Queen Street and Church Hill Road which would cost about \$15,000.

Discussion followed.

Since there was not a full board present, it was decided that the matter be discussed further at next month's meeting. Mr. Moreno also stated the tree whose roots are lifting the sidewalk is diseased and suggested that it be removed at the same time the sidewalk is replaced. Tree Warden Rob McCulloch said he would inspect the tree.

Rob McCulloch made a suggestion that when the sidewalks are finished on Main Street and the existing one is removed, that the stone be used elsewhere in the Borough as it is very expensive material. He also asked about the Blight Ordinance and its status. He made a suggestion that the ordinance cover blight with trees that are unsightly as well. Warden Gaston said that there is a draft ordinance and if it passes it will cover the Borough as well.

Warden's Report: Warden Gaston had nothing new to report.

Tree Warden: Rob McCulloch reported that 2 trees were taken down at 16 Currituck Road and that the Town contacted him and took trees down located at Hawley School and Newtown Middle School. He also reported that the State's Tree Warden inspected and took down trees at 23 Main Street. He reported that Bethany Tangredi (68 Main Street) agreed to wait until the fall to have trees planted.

He also reported that there is a hazardous tree located at 10 Main Street which needs to be taken down and he has determined that is the homeowner's responsibility. Warden Gaston will send a note to the homeowner regarding the matter.

Tax Collector's Report: Tax Collector Enriquez reported the following: Total Taxes Due for the List of 2011: \$169,550.97; Current Taxes: \$148,769.46; Back Taxes: \$1,838.81; Interest: \$625.22; Lien Fees: \$160.48; Write-Offs: (\$78.32); Overpayments: \$826.83. Total Submitted to Treasurer to Date: \$113,500.00. Current Taxes Collected: \$148,769.46.

Burgess Lucas made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report, seconded by Senior Burgess Joan Crick and unanimously approved.

Tax Collector Enriquez also requested that she attend the next tax collector class in Thomaston which begins on September 25th and costs \$175.00.

Senior Burgess Joan Crick made a motion to approve a check for \$175.00 for the Tax Collector's class, seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Clerk Ann Benore read the Treasure's report: There was a shortfall in two line items from Budget Year 2012: Fire Hydrants, (\$380.72) and Office Supplies, (\$75.25). Treasurer Marie Walker requests that a special appropriation be made for both accounts from the Income Taxes line item for Budget Year 2012. Check #4569 was voided (\$291.60) and check #4574 for \$406.00 was added to June 2012 bills. A deposit of \$7,500.00 was made from Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez on July 14, 2012 and one on July 21, 2012 for \$106,000 making a total of \$113,500.00 to date. A transfer of \$5,000.00 was made on August 13, 2012 to cover this month's invoicing leaving a total of \$271,252.87 in the NSBMM account. Capital Reserve is \$1,900.52 as of July 31, 2012.

Second Senior Burgess Maher made a motion for a special appropriation of \$380.72 from Income Taxes to Fire Hydrants for the 2012 Budget, seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Second Senior Burgess Maher made a motion for a special appropriation of \$75.25 from Income Taxes to Office Supplies for the 2012 Budget, seconded by Senior Burgess Crick and unanimously approved.

Second Senior Burgess Maher made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Zoning Officer's Report: In Zoning Officer Jean St. Jean's absence, Clerk Ann Benore presented the plans for the development at 30-32 Church Hill Road (Lexington Gardens). Discussion followed.

Historic District: No report due to Burgess Kenyon's absence.

Sidewalks: Second Senior Burgess Maher had nothing to report.

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

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public Participation: None.

The annual meeting the Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the Borough Office in Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT

There being no further business, Second Senior Burgess Maher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m., seconded by Senior Burgess Crick and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M. Benore
Borough Clerk