

**BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on **Tuesday, October 9, 2012** in the Borough Office at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT. Warden Gaston called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Warden James Gaston, Senior Burgess Joan Crick, Second Senior Burgess Jay Maher, Burgess Anthony Baiad, Burgess Bill Lucas, Zoning Officer Jean St. Jean, Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez, Clerk Ann Benore

Absent: Burgess Betsy Kenyon

Also Present: Tree Warden Rob McCulloch, 2 members of the public (Kim D'Amico, Cathy Monckton)

Second Senior Burgess Jay Maher made a motion to accept the September 11, 2012 annual meeting minutes, seconded by Burgess Anthony Baiad and unanimously approved.

Burgess Bill Lucas made a motion to accept the September 11, 2012 special meeting minutes, seconded by Senior Burgess Joan Crick and unanimously approved.

Public Participation: None.

Interview Candidates for Burgess and Treasurer Positions: Warden Gaston reminded everyone that we have open two positions on the board (Treasurer & Burgess) due to Marie Walker's resignation. He said that he would like to see both positions filled separately which is typical.

Warden Gaston asked Cathy Monckton, a candidate for the Treasurer's position, to introduce herself. Cathy presented her resume to the board and expressed her interest in becoming involved in the Borough. She works part-time for the Town of Newtown in the Land Use Department, has a bachelor's degree from Western Connecticut State University, is a member of the Governor's Guard, and has two children. Senior Burgess Crick explained some of the duties of Treasurer. Zoning Officer Jean St. Jean works with Cathy in Land Use and stated that she is a very conscientious worker.

Warden Gaston then asked Kim D'Amico to introduce herself. Kim has had her own business and has been a hairdresser for 35 years. She expressed her interest in getting more involved in the Borough and its historic preservation. Warden Gaston explained that the Burgess position is somewhat like a position on Legislative Council in that the Burgesses pass the legislation for the Borough.

Warden Gaston asked whether the Board would like to discuss the candidates now or at the end of the meeting. It was decided that it might be helpful to both candidates to be present for the

remainder of the meeting and the interview process would continue to take place after a couple of reports were presented.

Warden's Report: Warden Gaston reported that the Borough was served in a lawsuit by the town with regard to a property in Sandy Hook. He referred the matter to Borough Attorney Don Mitchell as it seems that the Borough was served in error and has no liens on the property.

Tree Warden: Rob McCulloch reported that trees were taken down at 10 Glover Avenue, 27 The Old Road, 3 The Old Road, and 26 West Street. He reported that when a tree on West Street was being taken down, wires came down accidentally on the property. The town received a letter from the homeowner who was not satisfied with the work that was done and was waiting to hear from the contractor with regard to the repairs. Warden Gaston said that ultimately the town would be responsible in the matter given that the tree was a town tree. Rob McCulloch will follow through and will see that Fred Hurley is apprised of the situation.

Rob McCulloch also reported that a month ago 11 trees on Queen Street were tagged to be taken down by CL&P to continue with their work replacing poles. The list of trees is as follows: 24 Queen St. Maple; Queen St. @ Elizabeth St. Maple; Queen St. @ Lovells La. Fir Tree; 46 Queen St. Maple; 54/56 Queen St. Maple Cluster; 60/62 Queen St. Maple Cluster. Rob stated that when sidewalks are put in along Queen Street there is a possibility that those same trees would have to be taken down. Two homeowners (24 Queen Street and 32 Queen Street) did respond and agree to taking down the trees on their property. No other homeowner came forward with any issue regarding the removal of the trees. Rob McCulloch reported this to Fred Hurley who in turn told CL&P that they could proceed with their work. It was noted that CL&P is paying for all this work which includes cleanup and removal, all stumps flushed no higher than 2-3 inches above the ground, and no tree planted with consent from the Tree Warden and the Borough.

Interview Process (cont'd): At this point, Warden Gaston asked the burgesses to express their opinions regarding the two candidates previously interviewed. Senior Burgess Crick said that Cathy Monckton has a great background and she would be happy to see her join as Treasurer. Second Senior Burgess Maher agreed and also supported Kim D'Amico as candidate for Burgess. Burgess Lucas and Burgess Baiad supported both candidates as well.

Senior Burgess Crick made a motion to appoint Cathy Monckton to the Treasurer's position, Burgess Lucas seconded and unanimously approved.

Burgess Lucas made a motion to appoint Kim D'Amico to the Burgess position, seconded by Burgess Baiad and unanimously approved.

Tax Collector's Report: Tax Collector Enriquez reported the following: Total Taxes Due for the List of 2011: \$169,413.31; Current Taxes: \$156,990.80; Back Taxes: \$1,843.92; Interest: \$955.00; Lien Fees: \$184.48; Write-Offs: (\$78.32); Refunds: (\$822.28). Total Submitted to Treasurer to Date: \$155,800.00. Current Taxes Collected: \$156,990.80.

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

Jodie Enriquez asked whether she could purchase the Borough's old Dell computer for \$125.00. It was noted that the computer is 5 years old and is no longer supported by Microsoft.

Senior Burgess Crick made a motion to sell the Dell computer to Jodie Enriquez for \$125.00, seconded by Second Senior Burgess Maher and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: No report.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer Jean St. Jean reviewed the plans that were presented last month for the property located at 30-32 Church Hill Road. She also reported that a liquor store may be going in next to Caraluzzi's but regulations would have to be amended in order for the approval. She reported that Dr. Beck's last extension expires on January 1, 2013. Attorney Don Mitchell contacted Dr. Beck advising him that he needs to begin demolishing the building prior to that date.

Zoning Officer St. Jean also reported that St. Rose will be taking down their garage and building offices in its place. They will also be constructing a new building to hold CCD classes.

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

Sidewalks: Second Senior Burgess Maher reported that all the paperwork is completed and the project south of the library is expected to begin on November 5, 2012.

Streets & Parks: Second Senior Burgess Maher had nothing new to report. Warden Gaston reported that the park bench in front of 35 Main Street has been successfully repaired by Jimmy Gaston.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public Participation: None.

The regular meeting the Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the Borough Office in Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M. Benore
Borough Clerk