

**BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on **Tuesday, January 8, 2013** 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 Anthony Baiad, Burgess Betsy Kenyon, Burgess Bill Lucas, Burgess Kim D'Amico, Zoning Officer Jean St. Jean, Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez, Treasurer Cathy Monckton, Clerk Ann Benore

Absent: None.

Also Present: Tree Warden Rob McCulloch, Auditor Glenn Nanavaty

Warden Gaston asked that the Board participate in a moment of silence in remembrance of the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy.

Burgess Kenyon made a motion to accept the December 12, 2012 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Second Senior Burgess Maher and unanimously approved.

Public Participation: None.

Auditor's Report: Borough Auditor Glenn Nanavaty distributed copies of the Borough of Newtown Audited Financial Statement with Independent Auditor's Report Year Ended June 30, 2012. He stated that the audit is in draft form and went over some highlights of the report. It is required that within one week of receipt, we are required to publish a legal notice that the report is complete and on file at the Borough. Glenn will also send a copy to the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management.

Net assets of the governmental activities decreased by \$18,318 or 5% (\$348,090 compared to \$366,408) in 2012. Total general revenues were \$175,759. The general fund's balance decreased by \$13,310. Revenues from charges for services were lower than anticipated in the final budget by \$2,580. Expenditures of \$195,484 were lower than the prior year by \$5,024 and the final budget by \$8,315. The only activity in the special revenue fund was investment earnings of \$544.

Glenn commended the Borough for a good job of monitoring the budget at monthly meetings.

Glenn stated that the Reserve is down to approximately \$150,000 which is a somewhat reasonable amount. Warden Gaston said that the Borough needs to keep a close eye on how we withdraw from the Reserve to maintain a reasonable balance. Discussion followed.

Burgess Baiad made a motion to accept the Auditor's Report for Year Ended June 30, 2012, seconded by Senior Burgess Crick and unanimously approved.

Senior Burgess Maher made a motion to amend the minutes of January 2012 to reflect a transfer of \$250 from Cotingency to Audit (a typographical error was made that stated a transfer of \$50), seconded by Burgess Baiad and unanimously approved.

Warden's Report: Warden Gaston sent a letter on 1/4/13 to Lilla Dean reporting that the Borough approved the Plan of Conservation & Development with the two changes suggested at last month's meeting. He also sent a letter to Wayne Adessi (13 Lovell's Lane) stating the Borough approved two Blue Spruce trees not to exceed \$800 in total cost on his property.

Warden Gaston also read a note that he received from former Burgess and Treasurer Marie Walker expressing her appreciation for the recognition she received at last month's Borough Gathering. Warden Gaston again thanked both Marie Walker and Linda Shepard for their many years of service to the Borough.

Warden Gaston also thanked the Newtown Garden Club, Joan Crick, Carol Garborino, and Holly Kocet for arranging the 26 green and white ribbons which were placed on the telephone along Main Street.

Tree Warden: Rob McCulloch did not have much to report. Warden Gaston asked Rob to follow up on a phone call he received regarding the issue on West Street and the fallen tree that had taken down wires on that property during Hurricane Sandy.

Tax Collector's Report: Tax Collector Enriquez reported that the Town of Newtown has postponed presenting its Grand List until February 28, 2013 due to emergency circumstances.

Second Senior Burgess Maher made a motion to extend presenting the Borough's Grand List until February 28, 2013 given the circumstances, seconded by Burgess Baiad and unanimously approved.

Tax Collector Enriquez reported the following: Total Taxes Due for the List of 2011: \$169,413.31; Current Taxes: \$158,947.80; Back Taxes: \$1,882.64; Interest: \$1,095.97; Lien Fees: \$232.48; Write-Offs: (\$78.32); Refunds: (\$822.28). Total Submitted to Treasurer to Date: \$161,100.00. Current Taxes Collected: \$158,947.80.

Burgess Kenyon made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report, seconded by Burgess D'Amico and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Cathy Monckton read the report: A deposit of \$500 was made from Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez making a total of \$161,100.00. A transfer of \$10,000.00 was made to cover this month's invoicing. Capital Reserve is \$1,900.92 as of December 31, 2012.

Burgess Kenyon made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Senior Burgess Crick and unanimously approved.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer Jean St. Jean reported that the 30-32 Church Hill Road deal has closed and the building (former Lexington Gardens) has been demolished.

Historic District: Burgess Kenyon had nothing new to report.

Sidewalks: Second Senior Burgess Maher reported that he received a phone call asking whose responsibility it is to remove snow from the sidewalks along Main Street and Church Hill Road. Warden Gaston stated that given they are state roads, the responsibility is ultimately the State of Connecticut's, however the Borough and residents take care of the sidewalks as a courtesy.

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

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public Participation: None.

A special meeting the Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 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 9:01 p.m., seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M. Benore
Borough Clerk