

**BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on Tuesday,
October 8, 2013 at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown. Warden Gaston called the meeting to order at
7:32 p.m.

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

Absent: Burgess Kim D'Amico

Also Present: Tree Warden Rob McCulloch

Burgess Kenyon made a motion to accept the September 10, 2013 annual meeting minutes,
seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Burgess Lucas made a motion to accept the September 10, 2013 regular meeting minutes,
seconded by Burgess Baiad and unanimously approved.

Public Participation: None.

Warden's Report: Warden Gaston reported that he met with George Benson (Land Use Agency),
and Mary Gaudet-Wilson (Conservation Commission) regarding the bamboo problem. The State
did pass an ordinance and the question was whether Newtown should pass any further legislation
regarding the matter. No other town in the State has passed an ordinance yet with the exception of
the town of Bozrah which passed an ordinance prior to the State statute. Warden Gaston would like
to get a legal opinion on the matter and suggested Attorney Don Mitchell do some research
regarding limits of authority. At that point, the town will discuss the details of drafting an
ordinance.

**Senior Burgess Maher made a motion to authorize Attorney Don Mitchell to give legal
opinion on limits of authority with respect to the bamboo issue,** seconded by Burgess Baiad
and unanimously approved.

Tree Warden: Tree Warden Rob McCulloch stated that 6 trees were recently planted (3 on
Lovell's Lane and 3 on Main Street). He spoke with Lisa Floros, 32 Queen Street, and she
questioned what would happen to trees recently planted if sidewalks were put in on that side of the
road. Senior Burgess Maher said that he would look into the matter.

Mr. McCulloch said the Town was sent a letter from Glover Avenue residents stating their concern
about protecting themselves from liability with respect to the condition of a tree on Glover Avenue
and the possibility of it falling. GIS maps indicated that the tree was partially on Town property;

subsequently, the tree was taken down. Mr. McCulloch sent a follow-up letter to First Selectman Pat Llodra.

Mr. McCulloch stated that he is still working with Gary Storms from The Newtown Lion's Club on the donation of approximately 20 sugar maples along Main Street.

Tax Collector's Report: Tax Collector Enriquez read the September 2013 report: Total Taxes Due for the List of 2012: \$192,172.81; Current Taxes: \$181,192.04; Back Taxes: \$2,088.40; Interest: \$1,615.29; Lien Fees: \$351.25; Write-Offs: \$54.98; Refunds: (\$4,515.65); Overpayments: (\$109.45). Total Submitted to Treasurer to Date: \$181,000.00. Current Taxes Collected: \$181,192.04

Burgess Baiad made a motion to accept the September 2013 Tax Collector's report, seconded by Senior Burgess Crick and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Paula Brinkman read the report for September 2013: A deposit of \$10,000.00 was made from Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez making a total of \$181,000.00 to date. No transfer was needed to cover this month's invoicing. Capital Reserve is \$1,901.63 as of September 30, 2013.

Burgess Kenyon made a motion to accept the September 2013 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Burgess Baiad and unanimously approved.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer Jean St. Jean reported that she was giving Treasurer Brinkman two checks for deposit: \$540.00 from D.E.E.P. and \$3,825.66 from Building & Zoning. Ms. St. Jean stated that Hugh Sullivan of Bennett Sullivan Architects was working out the last details to begin work at 30-32 Church Hill Road.

Historic District: Burgess Kenyon had nothing to report.

Sidewalks: Second Senior Burgess Maher spoke with Town Engineer Ron Bolmer regarding the sidewalk work to be completed on Church Hill Road from The Newtown Bee to the flagpole. He will have the plan available at next month's Borough meeting.

Streets & Parks: Second Senior Burgess Maher reported that all was quiet. He did ask Rob McCulloch if he planned on planting any of the sugar maples before the end of the year. Discussion followed regarding purchasing and planting 6 of the trees before the winter while donations through the Lion's Club were still pending.

Senior Burgess Maher made a motion to approve up to \$500 per tree (maximum of 6 trees) before the end of the year, seconded by Senior Burgess Crick and unanimously approved.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Senior Burgess Crick asked whether the Board would consider adding 3 more

street lights (corner of Queen Street & Glover Avenue; in front of the Historic Society house; and in front of 80 Main Street). Warden Gaston asked Ms. Crick to look into the matter and speak to homeowners nearby the locations about the possibility.

Public Participation: None.

The regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Borough Office at Edmond Town Hall.

There being no further business, Burgess Lucas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at

9:28 p.m., seconded by
Senior Burgess Maher and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M. Benore
Borough Clerk