

**BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on **Tuesday, February 11, 2014** in the Borough Office at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT. Warden Gaston called the meeting to order at 7:44 p.m.

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

Absent: Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez, Tree Warden Rob McCulloch

Also Present: One member of the public.

Burgess Kenyon made a motion to accept the January 14, 2014 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Public Participation: Warden Gaston welcomed Chris Gardner, 4 Mount Pleasant Terrace, as a candidate for Burgess to fill the vacancy made by Kim D'Amico's resignation. Mr. Gardner introduced himself as a lifelong resident of Newtown. He is a News Editor, is married and has two children (ages 12 and 9). He has spent many years on various boards in Newtown including Youth & Family Services and Youth Hockey. Mr. Gardner would like to become more involved with Borough and would like to be considered as a Burgess. Senior Burgess Crick thanked Mr. Gardner for coming and appreciates his interest in the Borough. Warden Gaston gave a brief history of the Borough and what is the mission of the Board of Burgesses. Discussion followed.

Burgess Lucas made a motion to appoint Chris Gardner as Burgess to fill the vacancy which resulted from Kim D'Amico's resignation, seconded by Burgess Kenyon and unanimously approved.

Warden's Report: Warden Gaston reported that he just left a meeting being held with the DOT with respect to replacing the bridge on Sugar Street near the intersection of Route 25. It is a 1.5 million project which is expected to begin in 2015. The DOT is not planning on running a bypass road but will regulate one lane at a time. Mr. Gaston spoke about concerns in relation to the project including sidewalks, lighting, and utility poles in that particular area. He stated that Land Use is recommending burying the utility poles given they service 3,000 homes, Newtown Police Department, Newtown Middle School and Reed Intermediate School (in particular the security systems in the schools). The road would possibly be widened approaching the intersection and installing sidewalks on both sides will be considered. Senior Burgess Crick suggested they consider a left turn signal from Main Street to Glover Avenue.

Warden Gaston also reported that a street light is out on a pole located at 21 Grand Place and asked Senior Burgess Crick to look into the matter.

Tree Warden: No report due to Rob McCulloch's absence.

Tax Collector's Report: No report due to Tax Collector Enriquez's absence.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Paula Brinkman read the report: A \$3,000.00 deposit was made from Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez making a total of \$193,000.00. A \$10,000.00 transfer was made to cover this month's invoicing. Capital Reserve is \$1,901.95 as of January 31, 2014.

Burgess Baiad made a motion to transfer \$500.00 from Contingency to Audit, seconded by Senior Burgess Crick and unanimously approved.

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

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer Jean St. Jean reported that an agreement was made between Newtown Hook & Ladder and Trinity Episcopal Church and they are just waiting for a final map to be finished. She also reported that plans were moving along with the sidewalk project, and that plan is to eventually install sidewalks to connect all schools and parks.

Historic District: Burgess Kenyon had nothing new to report.

Sidewalks: Second Senior Burgess Maher reported that the RFP was put out for the sidewalk work on Church Hill Road (from Newtown Bee to Main Street). There will be a pre-bid meeting on February 12, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the Municipal Center. Mr. Maher stated that he will ensure that the plan will comply with the Borough's Historic District regulations.

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

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public Participation: None.

A regular meeting the Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Borough Office in Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT

There being no further business, Burgess Kenyon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m., seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M. Benore
Borough Clerk