BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes of the Borough Board of Burgesses special meeting on **Tuesday, February 10, 2015** at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown. Warden Gaston called the meeting to order at 7:51 p.m.

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

Also Present: LeReine Frampton and Sharon Kish, Registrar of Voters

Absent: Burgess Betsy Kenyon, Tree Warden Rob McCulloch

Warden Gaston read the call of the meeting as follows: Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Borough Office at Edmond Town Hall for the purpose of placing into nomination the names of the candidates for elective office for the Borough Election to be held on Monday, May 4, 2015.

Warden Gaston thanked everyone for attending the meeting. There were 20 registered voters present to vote on the slate.

Clerk Ann LoBosco read the list of nominations:

Warden:	James O. Gaston, Sr.
Burgesses:	Anthony P. Baiad, Jr.
	William J. Lucas, III
	Joseph M. Maher, III
Clerk:	Ann M. LoBosco
Treasurer:	Paula Brinkman
Tax Collector:	Jodie S. Enriquez
Board of Assessment	
Appeals Member (2):	John S. Madzula
Zoning Commission	
Member (2):	David M. Francis
	Susan F. Filan
Zoning Commission	
Alternate	Robert W. Connor, Jr.
Zoning Board of Appeals	
Member (2):	Jane H. Maher
	Mary E. Thomas

Karen Boyle (53 Main Street) made a motion to place into nomination the slate of candidates, seconded by Kate Sclafani (10 Glover Avenue) and unanimously approved.

<u>There being no other candidates, Patrick Smith (10 Hall Lane) made a motion to close the slate</u> of candidates, seconded by Valerie Fallon (6 Hall Lane) and unanimously approved.

Mark Poirier (53 Main Street) made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m., seconded by Jane Maher (8 Juniper Road) and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M. LoBosco Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Borough of Newtown Board of Burgesses on **Tuesday**, **February 10, 2015** in the Borough Office at Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT. Warden Gaston called the meeting to order at 7:58 p.m.

<u>Present</u>: Warden James Gaston, Senior Burgess Joan Crick, Second Senior Burgess Jay Maher, Burgess Anthony Baiad, Burgess Bill Lucas, Burgess Chris Gardner, Zoning Officer Jean St. Jean, Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez, Treasurer Paula Brinkman, Clerk Ann LoBosco

Absent: Burgess Betsy Kenyon, Tree Warden Rob McCulloch

Burgess Lucas made a motion to accept the January 13, 2015 regular meeting minutes. seconded by Burgess Baiad, and unanimously approved.

Public Participation: None.

<u>Warden's Report</u>: Warden Gaston reported that Borough Attorney Don Mitchell prepared a legal opinion regarding Newtown Hook & Ladder's Special Permit (see attached). Attorney Mitchell concluded that the special permit was approved and the Borough Zoning Commission considers the matter closed. A copy of the letter was sent to Paul Mangiafico (Chairman, Police Commission).

Warden Gaston also reported that with respect to the suggested traffic study at the flagpole (by the Police Commission), he has sent an FOI request letter to the Police Commission requesting copies of the police reports for the 92 incidents reported over the last 5 years. Discussion followed.

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

<u>**Tax Collector's Report</u>**: Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez asked the Board for permission to attend the Annual Tax Collector's Seminar which costs \$480.00.</u>

Second Senior Burgess Maher made a motion to approve the request to spend \$480.00 to continue Tax Collector Enriquez's education, seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez presented the January 2015 report: Total Taxes Due for the List of 2013: \$190,261.05; Current Taxes: \$183,048.90; Back Taxes: \$2,409.02; Interest: \$2,178.72; Lien Fees: \$459.96; Refunds: (\$1,707.94). Total Submitted to Treasurer to Date: \$187,900.00. Current Taxes Collected: \$183,048.90.

Burgess Baiad made a motion to accept the January 2015 Tax Collector's Report, seconded by Second Senior Burgess Maher and unanimously approved.

<u>Treasurer's Report</u>: Treasurer Paula Brinkman read the report: A deposit of \$4,200.00 was made from Tax Collector Jodie Enriquez making a total of \$187,900.00. Capital Reserve is \$1,902.90 as of January 31, 2015.

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

Clerk LoBosco reported that \$1,250.00 was needed in the Streets and Parks line item to cover this month's invoice.

Second Senior Burgess Maher made a motion to transfer \$1,250.00 from Contingency to Streets & Parks, seconded by Burgess Lucas and unanimously approved.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer Jean St. Jean reported that the structure/signage was taken down at 23 Church Hill Road. She also reported that she has received several calls inquiring about purchasing the old Ambulance Garage on Main Street. However, she reported that according to the regulations the property is now for residential use.

<u>Historic District</u>: In her absence, Burgess Kenyon provided a letter reporting that A Sign Depot has completed the construction/lettering of 5 wooden signs, which will be replacements for those presently in place. She stated that Second Senior Burgess Maher has offered to remove the existing signs and replace them with the new ones.

<u>Sidewalks</u>: Second Senior Burgess Maher that he spoke with Rob Sibley and Rob Manna regarding the lighting fixtures for the new sidewalk on Church Hill Road. He was told that the Town has already purchased the lighting fixtures for the project.

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

<u>Old Business:</u> Senior Burgess Crick reported that the new street light on Grand Place has been installed. She also reported that she would like to see another USPS mailbox put in somewhere in the Borough, possibly at the new development on Church Hill Road (Lexington Gardens). She will follow up with the Post Office. Warden Gaston asked Senior Burgess Crick if she would contact CL&P to request a detailed report of what lights the Borough is responsible for paying. Ms. Crick stated there was an old list but she will contact them for a new list.

New Business: None.

Public Participation: None.

A regular meeting the Board of Burgesses will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Borough Office in Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT.

<u>There being no further business, Second Senior Burgess Maher made a motion to adjourn</u> <u>the meeting at 8:43 p.m.</u>, seconded by Burgess Baiad and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M. LoBosco Borough Clerk

January 13, 2015

Warden and Burgesses, Borough of Newtown P.O. Box 164 Newtown, CT 06470

Re: Newtown Hook & Ladder Special Permit - Church Hill Road

I have been asked for a ruling of concerning the zoning commission's approval on December 10, 2014 of a special permit for erection of a new firehouse facility on property located on Church Hill Road. The question arises as to the absence of a formal traffic study for the project.

The Borough zoning regulations require, as a precondition to approval of a special permit, that the Borough Zoning Commission find that the proposed use will not cause a traffic hazard on existing streets. The commission may accept comments from the town's Traffic Authority, the Fire Marshal and other concerned agencies. Such comments, however, are neither mandatory nor binding. Some applicants choose to submit formal traffic studies as evidence in support of that finding, but such studies are not required. Many applicants rely on other evidence. In the case of Newtown Hook & Ladder's application, concern was expressed about fire equipment traveling westbound on Church Hill Road, but there was nothing specific concerning the flagpole or problems relating to it. There was also evidence concerning fire apparatus that would be exiting onto Church Hill Road rather than onto Main Street and, for some responses, traveling in a different direction. Based on all the evidence introduced at the hearing, the zoning commission found that the firehouse project will not cause any new traffic hazards at its new location.

The commission considers the matter closed with the final vote approving the special permit. With no appeal having been taken from its action, the matter is resolved and the commission is now without authority to revisit the application.

Yours,

Donald A. Mitchell

DAM/ps