

A. Jeffrey Capeci, Chairman
Mary Ann Jacob, Vice Chair
Dan Amaral
Mitch Bolinsky
Phil Carroll
George T. Ferguson



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

3 Primrose Lane
Newtown, CT. 06470
Tel. (203) 270-4210
www.newtown-ct.gov

Kathy Fetchick
Joe Girgasky
Daniel T. Honan
Paul J. Lundquist
Robert Merola
Dan Wiedemann

These are draft minutes and as such are subject to correction by the Legislative Council at the next regular meeting. All corrections will be noted in the minutes of the meeting at which they were corrected.

The Legislative Council held a regular meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 2011 in the Board Room at the Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Lane, Newtown, CT.

PRESENT: George Ferguson, Joe Girgasky, Paul Lundquist, Bob Merola, Kathy Fetchick, Dan Honan, Mary Ann Jacob, Dan Wiedemann, Dan Amaral, Mitch Bolinsky, Jeff Capeci, Phil Carroll

ALSO PRESENT: First Selectman Pat Llodra, Town Clerk Debbie Aurelia, Finance Director Bob Tait, BOE Chairman Debbie Leidlein, Ed Shanley, Hua Nguyen (Patch), Jan Andras

Town Clerk Debbie Aurelia called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN: Ms. Aurelia asked for nominations. Mr. Amaral nominated Jeff Capeci as Chairman. Motion seconded. Hearing no further nominations, Mr. Capeci was elected unanimously.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Capeci assumed the Chair and asked for nominations. Mr. Ferguson nominated Mary Ann Jacob as Vice Chairman. Motion seconded. Hearing no further nominations, Mr. Jacob was elected unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF CLERK: Mr. Bolinsky moved to appoint Jan Andras as Legislative Council Clerk. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

VOTER COMMENT: None noted

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Ferguson moved to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2011 meeting. Mr. Lundquist offered the following corrections: Page 1 – NUSCAR should read NUSAR. Page 2 – all references to the Ambulance" Corp" should read "Corps". Page 2 – "Strom" Alfred should read "Storm". Page 3, first motion should say "Motion unanimously carried by roll call vote". Motion to approve the minutes as corrected was unanimously carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. Tait distributed copies of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal year ending 6/30/11.

Newtown Legislative Council

Chairman Capeci has received a memo from the P&Z Chairman advising that they will be reviewing the Fairfield Hills Master Plan Committee Report and incorporating some of the recommendations into the POCD.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: No reports as committee assignments have not yet been determined. Committees include Finance/Administration, Ordinance, Education and Municipal Operations. All members should advise Mr. Capeci of their preferences before the next meeting. Each member serves on at least two committees.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT: Ms. Llodra congratulated all members on their election. She asked that anyone having questions or issues for her at any time in the future, please address them through the Chairman.

With the possibility of snow tonight, CL&P has 20 crews (10 line crews, 10 tree crews) arriving and staging here at the Fairfield Hills campus. They have 20 additional crews staging on Route 7. They have also opened their Emergency Operations Center in Bristol to monitor the storms progress. Town trucks are prepared with plows, sand and salt, if needed.

Regarding building permits, in 2009 there were 119 permits issued totaling \$1.7 million; in 2010, 144 permits issued totaling \$2.2 million dollars; in 2011 there were 185 permits issued, totaling \$3.1 million.

Regarding the cost of the two recent storms, she distributed a written report from the Public Works Department (attached). We do expect reimbursement from FEMA for eligible expenses, which is generally 75%. We have also seen an increase in repair and replacement costs due to the heavy use of DPW equipment. The clean up process, using some contracted services, should be completed by this weekend.

The new animal shelter is coming along and should be completed by next spring, on time and on budget. The high school project is 99% complete with a few punch list items. A breakout of other projects is included on the attached.

Ms. Fetchik asked about the proposed consolidation of town and school services. Ms. Llodra advised that the draft report prepared by BlumShapiro has been reviewed by herself, Bob Tait, Dr. Robinson and Ron Bienkowski. They will be meeting again on 12/15 and she anticipates that it will be finalized at that time.

Mr. Tait distributed an overview to help understand the Annual Financial Report, noting that this is a good report for the Town, considering the economic climate. The fund balance is at 7.1%. The last Council referred a proposed Fund Balance Policy back to the Board of Finance. Recommendations from the auditors as a result of the Financial Report are expected soon.

Newtown Legislative Council

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinances - There are three ordinances to be referred to the Ordinance Committee once the committee assignments have been made: Newtown Feline Ordinance to allow cats to be housed at the animal shelter; an Anti-Blight Ordinance; and a review of Ordinance 79 to determine if the wording conveys the intent of the ordinance.

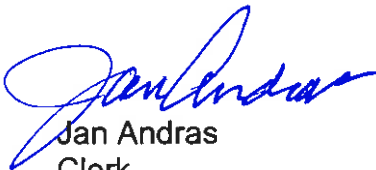
NEW BUSINESS

2012 Legislative Council Meeting Schedule – The Schedule was distributed to all members (attached to these minutes).

VOTER COMMENT: None noted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None noted.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



Jan Andras
Clerk

attachment



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Major Project Report
12/5/2011

1. **Tropical Storm Irene:** The final numbers are still pending review by FEMA but we have some general numbers available.

Initial Opening of Roads	\$121,308.00
Clean up	\$216,336.00
Permanent Damage Repair	\$ 22,295.00
Fire reimbursement pending	\$
Sewer reimbursement pending	\$ 22,300.00

Broken down by "subsets"

a. Contractors	\$144,857.00
b. OT	\$ 70,574.00
c. Town Equipment	\$ 98,814.00

2. **Snow Storm Alfred:** We have some rolling estimates which are not final estimates. We are only presenting the same subsets noted above as a basis of comparison between the two storms.

a. Contractors	\$300,000.00
b. OT	\$ 96,500.00
c. Town Equipment	\$180,000.00

Final expenses may reach 50% higher than the current estimates given. These estimates do not include expenses for Fire, Sewer, Police etc.

3. **Cost and reimbursement comparison:**

FEMA generally reimburses at a 75% rate. In IRENE, the town cash outlay for Contractors and overtime was \$215,431.00. At 75% reimbursement we should receive \$161,573.00 which leaves the Town's 25% share at \$53,858.00. We also get a 75% reimbursement for the use of Town Equipment. At that rate times \$98,814.00 the Town would also receive a further FEMA check of \$74,110. For use of Town Equipment. The Town overall would not need a new cash appropriation to cover the expenses for IRENE. We could cover all our contractor expenses and refill our OT accounts.

For ALFRED, we expect a similar result. For example, 25% of the current Contractor and OT Expense would be $.25 (\$300,000 + \$96,500) = \$99,125.00$. But the 75% reimbursement credit for use of Town Equipment $.75(\$180,000) = \$135,000$ would offset the Town's share noted above.

4. **Boggs Hill Bridge** – The bridge is open with some landscaping and cleanup remaining. The project estimate was \$238,000.00. Actual final project cost will come in below budget.
5. **Hanover Road** - \$200,000.00 has been set aside for this safety project below Hanover Pump House but before Papoose. The trees have been cut and utility poles have been moved with relocated power, excavation, paving and new guide rail remains to be done in the Spring.
6. **Sandy Hook Watermain** – The main line is completely installed, tested and already in use. The project estimate for engineering, surveying, pipe installation and traffic was approximately \$450,000.00. The project will stay within that budget. Road work will total approximately \$250,000.00 for permanent patch and paving prior to the street scope project and will come from the capital road fund. Additional cost will be part of the street scope project
7. **Sandy Hook Center Road Realignment** – The design to remove the utility pole and traffic island has been completed. The location of new utility poles, curbing and pedestrian crosswalks is waiting final state agreement. The utility companies are bearing the primary cost for this project valued at \$175,000+. Installation of new utility poles is anticipated this winter with utility line relocation by spring. The State DOT will then go forward with new traffic lights and pedestrian cross walk controls.
8. **Lakeview Terrace Survey** – a survey of Phase One of the Lakeview Terrace area has been completed. Mapping should be available shortly. A total of \$50,000.00 was set aside in Capital Road for survey and initial engineering for this phase which should be adequate. Additional funds will be requested going forward as needed.
9. Some other substantial efforts have included drainage and/or paving projects on Poverty Hollow, Brookbridge, Honey Lane, Jordan Hill, Newbury, Mt. Manor, Indian Hill, Reservoir, Pond Brook and Riverside.
10. In addition to the safety project on Hanover, major Spring Projects include another section of Brushy Hill.

3 PRIMROSE STREET
 NEWTOWN, CT 06470
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 FAX (203) 270-4205
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TOWN OF NEWTOWN

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2012 Regular Meeting Calendar

All meetings will be held in the Council Chambers of in the
 Newtown Municipal Center at 7:30PM.

January 4	
January 18	
February 1	
February 15	
March 7	
March 21	
April 4	
April 18	Spring Break ???
May 2	
May 16	
June 6	
June 20	
July 11	<i>wed.</i> 2nd Monday due to July 4 holiday
July 18	
Aug 1	
Aug 15	
September 5	
September 19	
October 3	
October 17	
November 7	
November 21	
December 5	
December 19	

March 14 Last day for BoF to deliver budget to LC (per charter).

March 21 - 28 Budget Public Hearing.

April 4 - 11 Budget adoption.

Tuesday, April 24 Annual Budget Referendum (per charter).