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TOWN OF NEWTOWN

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TOWN OF NEWTOWN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2016 NEWTOWN MUNICIPAL CENTER, NEWTOWN, CT

PRESENT: George Ferguson, Chris Eide, Neil Chaudhary, Judit DeStefano, Ryan Knapp, Paul Lundquist, Mary Ann Jacob, Dan Amaral, Tony Filiato, Dan Wiedemann, Dan Honan.

ABSENT: Phil Carroll.

ALSO PRESENT: First Selectman Pat Llodra, Finance Director Robert Tait, 2 members of the press, 1 public.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Jacob called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 pm.

VOTER COMMENT: None.

MINUTES: MR. FERGUSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 7, 2016 REGULAR MEETING. SECOND BY MR. FILIATO. ALL IN FAVOR. (10) Mr. Chaudhary abstained.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Mr. Knapp reported on the Ordinance Committee which had one agenda item regarding the Pension Committee ordinance language. There were no other committee reports.

FIRST SELECTMAN REPORT: Ms. Llodra gave an overview of the Sustainable Energy Commission presentation that was made at the recent Board of Selectman meeting and encouraged the council to view the PowerPoint presentation which is attached to the meeting. Ms. Llodra noted that right now about 4% of our energy is provided by solar energy, we will be at 25% in a year from now once our two major projects (Transfer Station and Reed School) will be coming on line. The process of becoming more sustainable is a complex one and they are also looking at offsite energy producing arrangements. Ms. Llodra pointed out that not all solar arrangements are the same. Windsor is looking at creating a large solar farm. Other municipalities could purchase through them, which helps them gain funding for their farm. Ms. Llodra suggested inviting the Sustainable Energy Commission Committee to a Legislative Council meeting in the future. Mr. Knapp asked for more information regarding the prioritization of sustainable energy projects and how the

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Transfer Station came to be identified. Ms. Llodra explained that the Transfer Station was the closest brown field project. She added that the process would allow us to apply credit to any municipal building and get credit for distribution. Ms. Jacob added that there are also benefits to installing sustainable energy methods to residential households. Rob Sibley to be invited to attend the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

TRANSFER: MR. LUNDQUIST MOVED TO TRANSFER \$26,000 FROM CONTINGENCY (1-101-24-570-5899-0000) TO CAPITAL (1-101-13-500-5749-0000). SECOND BY MR. FERGUSON. ALL IN FAVOR. (11)

TRANSFER: MR. LUNDQUIST MOVED TO TRANSFER \$35,298 FROM CONTINGENCY (1-101-24-570-5899-0000) TO \$15,000 UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (1-101-11-350-5520-0000), \$20,000 INSURANCE, OTHER THAN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (1-101-14-442-5520-0000), \$298 INSURANCE, OTHER THAN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (1-101-14-442-5520-0000). SECOND BY MR. FERGUSON. Discussion of SSO's unemployment claims, budget planning, and positions that qualify for unemployment. ALL IN FAVOR. (11)

CIP: reminder vote at next meeting on January 4. Ms. Llodra reminded all to review the backup materials that have been provided in the packet. Ms. Llodra led the discussion by project, Year 1:

Capital road program looking for a bonding. \$2,750,000. Bridge replacement program of about 20 bridges, now at bridge 6. The Public Works Department has done the hierarchy of projects. Mr. Knapp asked: Walnut Tree and 2019/19, reason that project is over 2 years. Ms. Llodra explained that it is a two-season project as opposed to Toddy Hill that is over 1 years.

Senior Center design and construction: provide an addition to the Community Center as a dedicated center for seniors. In design now. BOS owns this project. Process is just starting. Mr. Ryan asked about the schedule. Ms. Llodra indicated that the 2017/18 is realistic. The building will remain as a municipal building as departments may be moved around.

Treadwell pool deck replacement. Treadwell pool is in good shape, but the deck surrounding the pool needs to be replaced. Mr. Knapp asked if there is expertise in-house, Ms. Llodra indicated there is not for this type of work.

Edmond Town Hall A/C project for the Alexandria Room and the gym and respective support spaces, both of which are revenue generating areas for Edmond Town Hall. Important to have good air conditioning in both areas. Goal: for ETH to become independent, this effort is to help meet their general and operating costs. ETH also needs to increase their fundraising opportunity to become independent to ease the pressure of the operational budget. Ms. Llodra expressed that she is strongly supportive of these projects. Mr. Lundquist asked for further explanation to the rental capacity and marketing of the building. Ms. Llodra explained the negative aspects that exist now for renting the space due to A/C challenges and the Board of Managers acknowledges that this is an investment in the future for an increase in revenue stream. Ms. Jacob clarified that the Legislative Council can approve the plan or remove it, but not push it into Year 2. Discussion of zoning regulations, Borough of Newtown zoning, and scope of responsibilities, general challenges

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of Main Street location, rental purposes, and business plan. Ms. Jacob asked Ms. Llodra to reach out to the Edmond Town Hall Board of Managers to attend the next Legislative Council meeting.

Library: Ms. Llodra indicated to refer to page 31 of the CIP roofing 2017-18, exterior improvements, energy efficiency improvements.

Sidewalk plan: WestCOG competition, Newtown came in #2, funding may go to top two recipients, funding 4,000 linear feet of sidewalk in Hawleyville section of Newtown. Similar to the sidewalk project in Sandy Hook.

Ms. Jacob indicated the next meeting will cover the fire apparatus.

OLD BUSINESS: 2017-2018 to 2021-2022 Capital Improvement Plan to be on the agenda for the next meeting.

VOTER COMMENT: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

June Sgobbo
Clerk

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