

Board of Selectman  
August 19, 2013

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen held a regular meeting Monday, August 19, 2013 in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Center, Newtown. First Selectman Llodra called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**PRESENT:** First Selectman Llodra, Selectman William F.L Rodgers, Selectman James Gaston, Sr.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Director of Public Works Fred Hurley, Director of Community & Economic Development Elizabeth Stocker, Public Building & Site Commission Chairman Bob Mitchell, Charles Boos of Kaestle Boos, Anne Alzapiedi, ten members of the public and four members of the press.

**VOTER PARTICIPATION:** none.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:** Selectman Rodgers moved to accept the special meeting minutes of July 24, 2013. Selectman Gaston seconded. All in favor. It was noted that the meeting of July 24 was a special meeting, not a regular meeting as recorded in the minutes.

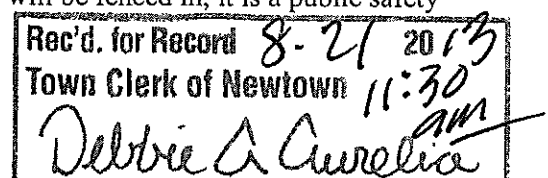
**COMMUNICATIONS:** First Selectman Llodra discussed the Edmond Road/Commerce Road realignment project. This project is fully funded by state and federal monies that have been earmarked under previous commitments. First Selectman Llodra shared the active and pending grant document (Att. A) provided by Elizabeth Stocker and a thank you letter from Connecticut Light & Power (Att. B). Ms. Alzapiedi shared informational documents that have been shared with the press and on social media (Att. C & Att. D).

**FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT:** none.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Discussion and possible action:**

- 1. Projects Update: Hawley School Boiler Project** – Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Boos and Mr. Generani, general contractor, were in attendance. The project is on time and under budget. The gas company has installed the line and the equipment; the boiler room should be complete around October 1. Mr. Mitchell stated that the entire project team worked very well together. **Sandy Hook Streetscape** – Ms. Stocker presented an update saying the project is also on schedule and under budget. Wiring to lights will be completed; a sidewalk is planned to Crestwood on the west side. Additional monies of approximately \$150,000 - \$200,000 will be taken out of the January grant money; SHOP has recommended that money be used for additional sidewalks. **Fairfield Hills** – the next project is the cleanup of Danbury Hall and the eight single houses. The State Historic Preservation office is requiring a sign off from the state; the EPA will be the final decision maker on how the project will address this. We will move forward with specifications. First Selectman Llodra noted that we can move forward with the abatement plan and process but the project is not able to move forward as quickly as originally anticipated. Mr. Gaston said that communications with our various town historic districts may be helpful. Ms. Stocker noted that marble and hardware in Danbury Hall has been identified by the Board of Managers as items that can be used at the Edmond Town Hall. Salvage businesses are also interested. **Batchelder** – Substantial value in steel has been identified and valued between \$350,000 - \$500,000. The Valley Council of Elected Officials is managing further remediation. Ms. Stocker went over the grant projects (Att. A). The sidewalk proposal from the corner of Glover Ave. to the corner of Mile Hill has been approved through HVCEO, it is a federal project. Funding was not approved this year; when the federal government releases money for the Transportation Enhancement Act we will get it. Mr. Hurley presented an update on the **Animal Control Facility, Hawleyville Sewer Project and the Fairfield Hills Infrastructure and Parking Lot** (Att. E). First Selectman Llodra said that the town has taken the Watkins property on Glen Road. It is significantly contaminated and the entire property will be fenced in; it is a public safety



issue. A black iron fence has been ordered for the entrance of Dickinson Drive.

2. **Investment Grade Audit appropriation request:** Selectman Rodgers moved the \$87,000 from 1-101-20-570-5899 Contingency to 1-101-13-500-5300-0000 Fees & Professional Services. Selectman Gaston seconded. All in favor.
3. **Memorial Commission discussion:** First Selectman Llodra said the board needs to think through the process, review the charge and be prepared to appoint at the next meeting. Originally the thought was to have a seven member commission; there are thirty-three interested parties, consideration should be given to a nine member commission instead. This would not be the appropriate commission for anybody interested in promoting a memorial project as they will be presenting to the commission and therefore should not be a member of the commission. The charge needs to be formalized; the commission will need to recommend the nature of the permanent memorial, the scope, scale and funding. The Selectmen committed to appoint the commission in September after narrowing down the group. Ms. Alzapiedi will communicate with the interested parties to let them know where we are in the process, to keep them updated. Selectman Rodgers suggested making the time commitment clear to the applicants.
4. **Fiscal Year End Budget Transfers:** Selectman Gaston moved the Town of Newtown Fiscal Year End Transfers 2012-2013 as reflected on document dated 8/8/13 (Att. F). Selectman Rodgers seconded. All in favor.
5. **\$24,000 special appropriation for bullet resistant vests:** Selectman Gaston moved the resolution providing for a special appropriation in the amount of \$24,000 to be funded from the Sandy Hook Special Revenue Fund "Police" (\$20,371) & "First Responders" (\$3,629) donation accounts 33-410 & 33-415 respectively for the purpose of obtaining bullet resistant vest for long rifles. Selectman Rodgers seconded. All in favor.
6. **Appointments/Reappointments:** Selectman Rodgers moved the appointment of Cynthia Edgar as an Assistant Municipal Animal Control Officer for a term to expire April 17, 2014, the appointment of Michael Talluto (R) to the C.H. Booth Library Board of Trustees for a term to expire July 1, 2016 the appointment Terry Sagedy (U) to the Fairfield Hills Authority for a term to expire July 31, 2016 and the appointment of Anna Wiedemann (D) to the alternate position on Commission on Aging with a term to expire January 6, 2014. Selectman Gaston seconded. All in favor. There is a vacancy on the Library Board of Trustees open to a republican or unaffiliated voter and a vacancy on the Economic Development Commission open to any registered voter. The last date to express interest is Sept. 20 with an anticipated appointment date of Oct. 7. There is a position on the Hattertown Historic District open to any registered voter, along with an alternate vacancy, open to a democrat or unaffiliated voter, which has been advertised in the Bee already.
7. **Driveway Bond Release:** none.
8. **Tax Refunds:** Selectman Rodgers moved the August tax refunds, refund number 2, 2012/2013 in the amount of \$52,675.74. Selectman Gaston seconded. All in favor.

**VOTER COMMENTS:** none.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The Dickinson Park project will be referred to a town meeting. The amount of money is below the \$500,000 threshold, the project in the totality exceeds \$500,000. The town meeting will be held prior to the next Board of Selectman meeting on Sept. 16.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Selectman Gaston moved to enter executive session to discuss legal matters: assessment appeals. Selectman Rodgers seconded. Nobody was invited to attend. Executive session was entered into at 8:55pm and returned to regular session at 9:05pm with the following motions:

Selectmen Rodgers moved to authorize the town attorney to defend the town in assessment appeals brought forward by 6 Pond View Trust, Sugar Hill, LLC and 90 Mt. Pleasant Road. Selectman Gaston seconded. All in favor.

Board of Selectman  
August 19, 2013

Selectman Gaston moved to authorize the town attorney to defend the town in an assessment appeal brought forward by Bruce & Christine Degen. Selectman Rodgers abstained from voting. First Selectman Llodra seconded. Motion passed, Gaston/Llodra.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business the Board of Selectmen adjourned their regular meeting at 9:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Susan Marcinek, Clerk

- Att. A: Active & Pending Grant Projects, August 2013
- Att. B: CL&P thank you letter, July 1, 2013
- Att. C: Sandy Hook Elementary School, Q&A #1-#4
- Att. D: Benefits for Newtown Seniors, Q&A
- Att. E: Public Works Projects Update, 8/19/13
- Att. F: TON Fiscal year end budget transfers 2012-2013

**Town of Newtown  
Office of Economic and Community Development  
Active and Pending Grant Projects  
August 2013**

**Att. A**

Project Title	Funding Source	Amount of Grant Award	Award Year	Status
Newtown Parent Connection (Duplex at Fairfield Hills)	CT Dept. Social Services	\$500,000	2008	Approved for Parents Connection 12/2012
Nunnawauk Meadows Housing Rehab	HUD CDBG	\$546,000	2010	Work completed DECD Monitoring Visit 7/30/13 - Final Signoff Pending
Sandy Hook Streetscape	STEAP	\$100,000	2010	Grant Completed - Final Report filed 7/31/13
Fairfield Hills Streetscape/Infrastructure	STEAP	\$400,000	2011	Work Underway
Brownfields Clean-up Danbury Hall & SF Homes - Fairfield Hills	EPA	\$200,000	2012	Work Underway
Regional Brownfield Partnership - Hazardous Materials Cleanup - Batchelder	EPA/VCOG	\$150,000	2012	VCOG Work Underway
Business Assistance Program following 12/14/2012	STEAP	\$500,000	2013	Phase I completed - Phase II underway - RFP Interviews 8/9 & 8/12/13
Hawleyville Streetscape	STEAP	\$275,000	2013	Application submitted July 31, 2012
Borough of Newtown - Church Hill Road Sidewalk	STEAP	\$225,000	2013	Application submitted July 31, 2012
CT Main Street Investment Fund Program (Sidewalk on Church Hill Rd & Private Reimbursements)	CT OPM	\$500,000	2013	Application Submitted Sept. 28, 2012 - 7/16/13 Project was not selected for funding

**Town of Newtown**  
**Office of Economic and Community Development**  
**Active and Pending Grant Projects**  
**August 2013**

Regional Brownfield Partnership - Hazardous Materials Assessment - 28A & 28B Glen Road /Wakins	RBP/VCOG	\$30,000	2013
<b>Total Amount (Active &amp; Pending)</b>		<b>\$3,426,000</b>	

Application  
 Approved - Site  
 Inspection  
 8/21/2013

Fairfield Hills - Utility Loop Infrastructure	EDA	TBD
Hawleyville Sewers	EDA	TBD



**Connecticut  
Light & Power**

A Northeast Utilities Company

107 Selden Street, Berlin, CT 06037

The Connecticut Light and Power Company  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141-0270  
(860) 665-3761 (direct)  
E-mail: [quinljw@nu.com](mailto:quinljw@nu.com)  
[www.cl-p.com](http://www.cl-p.com)

A Northeast Utilities Company

William J. Quinlan  
Senior Vice President – Emergency Preparedness

July 1, 2013

Dear First Selectman Llodra,

On behalf of our customers, the employees of The Connecticut Light & Power Company, Northeast Utilities and the dedicated work forces from our sister utilities from across the region, I want to extend my personal thank you for allowing us to utilize the Fairfield Hills campus as a full scale staging area during the several unprecedented storm events that have hit our State in recent years.

CL&P serves over 1.2 million customers and our primary goal is to keep the electrical system up and running, despite the challenges Mother Nature may bring. We could not accomplish our mission if not for the kindness and genuine sense of community spirit displayed by you and a small number of uniquely positioned corporate citizens time after time - all of which greatly contribute to successful restoration efforts that enable us to put the lights back on for our customers.

As we've now entered hurricane season, I'm reminded of these triumphant restorations which are a testament to individuals who work side by side with the CL&P team to set the conditions for thousands of employees to quickly assemble from Connecticut, dozens of other states, and sometimes as far as Canada to support our efforts.

For your thoughtfulness, the CL&P team and I offer our sincere gratitude and appreciation. While we certainly feel our region has endured more than its fair share of inclement weather for a while, we look forward to our continued partnership in the future should the situation arise. Thanks for all your support.

Sincerely,

William J. Quinlan





## Q&A #1

On Friday, May 10, 2013 the Sandy Hook School Task Force voted to recommend to the Newtown Board of Education that the current Sandy Hook Elementary School (SHS) be removed and a new elementary school would be built on a modified version of the current site.

QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>Who was on the Sandy Hook School Task Force?</p>	<p><b><u>BOARD OF EDUCATION</u></b>            Bill Hart            Laura Roche            Richard Gaines            Keith Alexander            Debbie Leidlein            Cody McCubbin            John Vouros</p> <p><b><u>BOARD OF FINANCE</u></b>            Jimmy Gaston            Joe Kearney            John Kortze            Richard Oparowski            Carol Walsh            Harry Waterbury</p> <p><b><u>BOARD OF SELECTMEN</u></b>            Pat Llodra            Will Rodgers            Jim Gaston</p> <p><b><u>LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL</u></b>            George Ferguson            Joe Girgasky            Paul Lundquist            Bob Merola            Kathy Fetchick            Dan Honan            Mary Ann Jacob            Dan Wiedemann            Dan Amaral            Neil Chaudhary            Jeff Capeci            Phil Carroll</p>
<p>The Task Force meetings were recorded. Where can I view the meetings?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task Force meetings were recorded and can be viewed at: <a href="http://www.newtown-ct.gov/Public_Documents/index">http://www.newtown-ct.gov/Public_Documents/index</a></li> </ul>
<p>Why did the task force recommend using the current site instead of a new site?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 40 sites were considered by the Task Force and evaluated on location, usable acreage, property restrictions (wetlands, topography), current infrastructure, permitting required from Federal, State and local agencies, offsite improvements required, costs and scheduling along with many other criteria.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current site most closely matched the guiding principles and building criteria. Specifically, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was located in Sandy Hook</li> <li>• Has established bus routes</li> <li>• No need for eminent domain to acquire property</li> <li>• All utilities available</li> <li>• Multiple full access to the site (entrance &amp; exit)</li> <li>• Has good vehicle circulation on site</li> <li>• No State roads impacted</li> <li>• Only minimal impact to existing Riverside Road (improvements on school side only)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Why did the task force recommend a new building vs. a renovation?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cost of renovation was close to the cost of a new building. The Task Force considered several renovation considerations such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larger cafeteria and gym required</li> <li>• Modify building exterior wall for security recommendations</li> <li>• Abatement of existing building required for code modifications</li> <li>• Level of square footage required for ADA revisions.</li> <li>• Roof at end of life cycles</li> <li>• Major mechanical systems at end of life cycles (heating system, plumbing, electrical)</li> <li>• Current building unable to accommodate air conditioning</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>What are the short-term next steps?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Board of Education will define and finalize education specifications so that the design for the building is consistent with the Town's educational programming needs.</li> <li>• A SHS Advisory Committee, made up of technical resources, will apply the education specifications to a building design.</li> <li>• A Public &amp; Site Commission will then create and advertise a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for construction management and architect services.</li> <li>• Concurrently, the Town of Newtown will continue to work with CT state officials, the state legislature and local legislators to approve legislation to facilitate approval from the Bureau of School Facilities to be placed on the project list and to expedite proper waivers.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are the long-term next steps?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State review of demolition &amp; abatement</li> <li>• State review of construction documents</li> <li>• Bid project, review &amp; approve bids</li> <li>• Demolition, abatement, site preparation</li> <li>• Building Construction</li> </ul>
<p><b>Do we need to hold a town referendum to approve building a new school?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, we are still determining the referendum process but in order to receive (even if from state &amp; local grants) and allocate funds to build the new school, the Town will have to hold a referendum.</li> </ul>
<p><b>How will the public know how the SHS project is progressing?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Newtown Interim Superintendent, Dr. Reed and First Selectman, Pat Llodra will provide updates to the public via: Town &amp; School websites, Facebook, Twitter, the media, and public update meetings.</li> </ul>
<p><b>When do you hope to have the building complete?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our goal is to have the new building available late in the 2016 school year.</li> </ul>





## Q&A #2

On Friday, May 10, 2013 the Sandy Hook School Task Force voted to recommend to the Newtown Board of Education that the current Sandy Hook Elementary School (SHS) be removed and a new elementary school would be built on a modified version of the current site.

We will be issuing a series of Q&A documents to ensure the community is informed throughout the rebuilding process. The following Q&A document reviews the cost and funding of the Sandy Hook Elementary School.

QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>What are the projected costs for the proposed new Sandy Hook School building?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approximately \$45 million.</li> </ul>
<p>How will the Sandy Hook School building be paid for?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On June 5<sup>th</sup>, the CT Legislature passed a state bonding package authorizing an amount not to exceed \$50 million to rebuild the Sandy Hook Elementary School. This is not a typical school construction bond but a special (state) bonding provision. This is a “not to exceed” number and the Town will seek all efficiencies to manage costs. The money may be used for demolition of the current building as well as constructing the new building.</li> </ul>
<p>Since we are receiving the money from the State via a bonding package, does the Town still have to vote in a referendum?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, even though there is no local tax levy, the Town will hold a referendum to authorize the appropriation per our Charter.</li> </ul>
<p>I have read on social media that the Town has received offers for large donations from corporations and individuals. How would these funds be used?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have not received any large offers for donations by corporations or individuals to rebuild Sandy Hook Elementary School. However, we have received some generous offers of goods and services related to the new school. These offers are documented and will be evaluated by the Public Building &amp; Site Commission and incorporated into the project as much as possible.</li> <li>Use of donated items will help to offset any monies received from the State as part of the bonding package.</li> </ul>





## Q&A #3 - Revised

On Friday, May 10, 2013 the Sandy Hook School Task Force voted to recommend to the Newtown Board of Education that the current Sandy Hook Elementary School (SHS) be removed and a new elementary school would be built on a modified version of the current site.

We will be issuing a series of Q&A documents to ensure the community is informed throughout the rebuilding process. The following Q&A document reviews next steps in the Sandy Hook Elementary School building project.

QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>What are the next steps in the Sandy SHS building project?</p>	<p>We are currently in the process of selecting the lead professionals for the project, including, an Architect and Construction Manager and other professionals as well:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interviews and selection of professionals</li> <li>• Hazmat/Abatement</li> <li>• Town Meetings/Referendums as needed</li> </ul>
<p>Why is the Town considering land purchase for the new SHS building project?</p>	<p>The project plan calls for the development of a new access road. The Town is seeking to purchase the land needed for that road.</p>
<p>What government or local process is needed to approve the land purchase?</p>	<p>According to our Charter, the Legislative Council is authorized for the purchase of land for municipal purposes provided an appropriation for such has been approved. The special appropriation regulations establish a limit of \$500,000 for action to be taken without a town meeting. Special appropriation requests for more than \$10,000,000 go to referendum.</p>
<p>The Board of Selectmen is planning a town meeting for consideration of the \$750,000 provided by the State of CT. Why?</p>	<p>The \$750,000 grant is part of the overall \$50 million funding for the school project but is a separate action of the State of CT to provide more immediate resources so that Newtown may proceed with design and engineering preparatory work. By Charter, the Legislative Council calls for a town meeting to approve an appropriation in excess of \$500,000. So, a Town Meeting will be held on <b>July 24th</b> to act on this special appropriation.</p>
<p>Since we are receiving the money from the State via a bonding package, does the Town still have to vote in a referendum?</p>	<p>Yes, even though there is no local tax levy, the Town will hold a referendum to authorize the appropriation per our Charter. The State of CT expects to complete the bonding action for the \$50 million sometime in August/September. When that state action is complete, the Legislative Council will call for a referendum to approve the appropriation.</p>
<p>I have read on social media that the Town has received offers for large donations from corporations and individuals. How would these funds be used?</p>	<p>We have not received any offers by corporations or individuals to rebuild the Sandy Hook Elementary School. However, we have received some generous offers of goods and services related to the new school. These offers are documented and will be evaluated by the Public Building &amp; Site Commission and incorporated into the project as much as possible. Use of donated items will help to offset any monies received from the State as part of the bonding package.</p>
<p>When will the school be demolished?</p>	<p>Depending on the Hazmat results and any required abatement Demolition is currently targeted for Mid-November.</p>





## Q&A #4 – SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

On May 10, 2013, the Newtown Board of Education, as members of the Sandy Hook School Task Force, endorsed the decision to remove the Sandy Hook Elementary School and build a new school on a modified version of the current site.

We will be issuing a series of Q&A documents to ensure the community is informed throughout the rebuilding process. The following Q&A document provides an update on the Sandy Hook Elementary School building project.

QUESTION	ANSWER
Does the Town of Newtown have to repay the State for the grant of \$50 million for the Sandy Hook School project?	No, the Town has no obligation to repay the State of Connecticut for the grant of \$50 million to build the new Sandy Hook School.
Is the Town able to spend more than the \$50 million grant?	The referendum question sent to the voters seeks approval of an appropriation of \$50 million granted by the State for Sandy Hook School. The wording of the referendum question limits the amount that can be spent on the project.
What happens if the project costs more than \$50 million?	The Town would have to ask for a special appropriation from the Town for additional funds. The Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, Legislative Council, and Public Building and Site Commission have already indicated their commitment to keep spending <b>below</b> the cap. There is no interest on the part of any government agent to exceed the grant provided by the State.
Why is the referendum scheduled for a Saturday (October 5 <sup>th</sup> )?	A Saturday was selected for the referendum for two significant reasons. Saturday voting maximizes the opportunity for residents to get to the polls; and Saturday voting eliminates concerns that arise from using the school building during the school week.
Will absentee ballots be available for the Saturday, October 5 <sup>th</sup> referendum?	Yes, the Town Clerk's office will publish when and where to obtain absentee ballots in the Newtown Bee and on the Town website when we are closer to the October 5 <sup>th</sup> date.
Why was the decision made to build a new school and not just renovate?	Analysis of the renovate vs. build new by the Advisory Committee showed that costs to renovate this 56 year old building, bring it up to code, eliminate the portables, make it energy efficient, provide necessary safety features, and more, generated a cost almost at the same level of new building construction.
Why wasn't the decision made to just demolish the classrooms and hallway where the tragedy occurred and remodel that section?	<b>Any</b> remodeling of the building requires code work and would also involve almost all the features listed in the previous question. It made no economic sense to invest significant funds in a 56 year old building given that the costs came close to a total rebuild.





## Q&A – Benefits for Newtown Seniors

The Town of Newtown deeply values its senior citizens. We understand that there may be economic considerations for Seniors that are unique and that the Town needs to provide financial supports to the extent possible in order to help our Senior residents continue to live and thrive in our community. This Q&A details some of the programs the Town of Newtown offers to Seniors.

QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>Does the Town have a tax relief program for Seniors?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, in fiscal 2013-2014 the Town allocated \$1.5 million for Senior Tax Relief for 718 households that qualify.</li> <li>• Homeowners can qualify if they are 65 years old as of July 1<sup>st</sup>.</li> <li>• Your income must be \$65,000 or less.</li> <li>• You must have resided and paid taxes in Newtown for one year and all delinquent taxes must be paid in full.</li> <li>• Your property must be a legal domicile &amp; occupied by you more than 183 days each year.</li> <li>• The credit is applied to the residence and house lot, not excess acreage.</li> </ul>
<p>When are applications available for the Senior Tax Relief Program?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applications are available March 1<sup>st</sup> through May 15<sup>th</sup> of any given year and can be obtained at the Newtown Municipal Center – 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT.</li> <li>• You can apply at the Tax Office and need to fill out the application (signed) and provide copies of your signed Federal Income Tax return &amp; a copy of your 1099 statement from social security.</li> </ul>
<p>What does the town take into consideration when I apply for this benefit?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All sources of income are taken into consideration. This includes, but is not limited to: interest bearing accounts, all social security income, wages, pensions &amp; annuities, rental monies, etc.</li> </ul>
<p>How much benefit will I receive?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you made <b>under \$45,000</b>, you are <b>eligible for \$2,525</b> off your taxes.</li> <li>• If you made <b>between \$45,001-\$55,000</b>, you are eligible for <b>\$1,750 off</b> your taxes.</li> <li>• If you made <b>between \$55,001-\$65,000</b>, you are eligible for <b>\$1,300 off</b> your taxes.</li> </ul>



<p><b>How often do I need to re-apply for the Senior Tax Relief Program?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You only need to apply every two years. However, if your income changes, please contact the Tax Collector's Office at 203-270-4320.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Does the State of CT have a tax relief for Seniors?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the State offers a program if your income is under \$32,300 (single) &amp; \$39,000 (married).</li> <li>Applications can be obtained February 1<sup>st</sup> through May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Newtown Municipal Center – 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT.</li> <li>Applications taken in 2013 are applied to July 2013 bill.</li> </ul>
<p><b>If I want information about Town or State tax relief for Seniors who do I call?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please call the Newtown Tax Assessor's office at 203-270-4240.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Why doesn't the Town just freeze tax payments for Seniors?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the Town froze taxes and did not apply increases, then by law, the Town would have to put a lien on that property and then recapture the frozen amount when the property was sold. This is a burdensome process for both the Town and the Senior taxpayer.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Are there any programs for Seniors who are Renters?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, a Renters Rebate Program is a program for Senior Renters who have lived in Newtown for any part of 2012 and is 65 years of age by December 31, 2012. People renting an apartment or room, or living in cooperative housing or a mobile home may be eligible for this program. Renters' rebates can be up to \$900 for married couples and \$700 for single persons and the rebate amount is based on a graduated income scale. The filing period for this program is now April 1<sup>st</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup>. For more information, please contact the Social Services Department at 203-270-4330.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Does the Town provide transportation services for Seniors?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, there is daily, door-to-door minibus service for Senior residents (SweetHART bus service). You must be 60 years or older and proof of age is required. Call 203-748-2511 at least 2 days in advance. Service is provided Monday to Friday and half day Saturday.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Does the Town provide transportation for medical appointments?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, FISH provides transportation for Newtown residents, regardless of age, who need transportation to medical appointments. Volunteers are available Monday through Thursday and transportation goes to Danbury, Bethel, Brookfield &amp; Southbury. Call 1-800-794-0034.</li> </ul>



**What other programs for Seniors does the Town of Newtown offer?**

- The Senior Center offers a wide variety of programs and activities including: **fitness, nutrition & health, Meals on Wheels, educational programs, flu shot clinics, health screenings and income tax assistance.** For more information call: 203-270-4310.
- Seniors are entitled to **free swim passes** through the Newtown Parks & Recreation Department for Treadwell Pool and Eichler's Cove Beach and **free residential permits for all Newtown parks.** For more information, call: 203-270-4340.
- Seniors can also purchase permits for the **Transfer Station for \$80 (a \$10 savings).** Registering online can also save an additional \$5. For more information, call 203-270-4307.

**What other programs are offered to Seniors?**

- For more information about any of the following programs, please call the Newtown Social Services Department at 203-270-4330. Please note that these programs have income requirements.
  - **Medicare Savings Program** to help pay for your Medicare premiums, coinsurance, and deductibles.
  - **Energy/Fuel Assistance**
  - **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**



## Public Works Projects Update: Board of Selectmen

8/19/13

### Animal Care Facility:

The facility is fully operational. All exterior site work is completed and we are essentially done with our direct responsibilities for the project. A total of \$652,018 has been spent from the budget of \$785,848. The balance will more than complete the open items which are as follows:

- 1) Hard canopies over some of the outdoor pens used for shading - They are ordered and the fence company should be installing them momentarily.
- 2) Sealing indoor pen block walls - The vendor has been waiting to finish this item for weeks to months but cannot proceed until enough pens are empty to schedule the work.
- 3) Access control, cameras and general security/alarms - There were original systems picked prior to 12/14/12. IT has had a vendor credit applied to installing a system compatible to the now accepted standard installed in several schools and designated for the remainder of our access control projects.

### Hawleyville Sewer Project:

The issuance of the RFP for appraisal services was delayed pending any major shift of values in the project area resulting from challenges to the revaluation. There have been none and the RFP with a return date of September 10<sup>th</sup> will be released this week. To make up time for this delay, we are also issuing an RFQ for sanitary sewer design engineers. The return date will also be September 10<sup>th</sup>.

While we are reviewing credentials and short listing the design teams based on qualifications, the appraiser will complete their work by mid to late October. The completed appraisals will be given to each shortlisted design firm to prepare a final cost proposal based on various development options. Cost proposals will be due by the end of November.

Final selection of the design firm and the probable course of the project should occur before the end of December. With a decision to proceed in December, project plans could be issued by late spring/early summer with construction completed by the end of 2014 or early 2015.

### Fairfield Hills Infrastructure and Parking Lot:

The entire drainage system has been completed. This includes all of Keating Farms , Trades Lane and Washington Square. The tie-in coming out of Washington Square also picked up whatever drainage there was coming from Norwalk and Stamford Halls.

The entire conduit system has been completed for all of Trades Lane and DG Beers Blvd. This allows the continuation of all services currently supplied by the overhead catenary system shifted to an underground delivery and complete removal of the poles and wires. All deposits have been supplied to the utilities and we are waiting for the utilities to begin their work. The final phase of this work from Mile Hill South down Keating Farms to complete the "utility loop" on D.G. Beers will not be started until after the poles and overhead wires have been removed.

The extension of the gas and water lines in Washington Square are ready to commence. We have coordinated the scheduling of this work with the site contractor for the new Ambulance Garage to avoid access conflicts. As needed, deposits and ordering of equipment has been completed.

Included in this site coordination is completion of the adjacent parking lot. We completed all the rough grading of the new parking lot which the contractor is using for site access. Final grading and paving of the parking lot and the roadway to and around Washington Square will not occur until the Ambulance Garage is ready for its final site preparation and concurrent paving.

The streetscape items of curbing and sidewalks are in final design but we are ready to commence this work on Trades Lane and proceed up either D.G. Beers or Keating Farms or both. In addition, all the street lighting fixtures have been delivered.

The timeliness of action by the utilities and the weather will determine how quickly this project moves along.

TOWN OF NEWTOWN  
FISCAL YEAR END BUDGET TRANSFERS  
2012 - 2013

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>ACCOUNT #</u>	<u>ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<b><u>SELECTMEN</u></b>				
	01570-2000	CONTINGENCY	46,401.00	
	0110-4063	LEGAL SERVICES - OTHER Mainly due to Sandy Hook School matters.		46,401.00
<b><u>SELECTMEN - OTHER</u></b>				
	01105-2016	POSTAGE	1,429.00	
	01105-2024	COPIERS Mainly due to charges relating to color copies. Transfer is within department budget.		1,429.00
<b><u>REGISTRARS</u></b>				
	01570-2000	CONTINGENCY	15,649.00	
	01180-1005	REFERENDA		15,051.00
	01180-2002	FICA Referenda expenses budgeted to be taken out of contingency		598.00
<b><u>TECHNOLOGY</u></b>				
	01570-2000	CONTINGENCY	21,970.00	
	01205-5080	CAPITAL Police lap top connection to schools. This is the amount for the project not covered by the OPM mini grants		21,970.00
<b><u>UNEMPLOYMENT</u></b>				
	01570-2000	CONTINGENCY	2,500.00	
	01240-2001	UNEMPLOYMENT Underestimated unemployment costs. Waiting for June bill. May be as little as \$250. Or it could be \$2,000?(Currently account is \$288 over)		2,500.00
<b><u>COMMUNICATIONS</u></b>				
	01300-1001	FULL TIME OPERATORS	1,034.00	
	01300-1005	OVERTIME Due to open positions being filled with overtime (salary account has an available balance of \$59,000 due to openings). Transfer is within department budget.		1,034.00
<b><u>POLICE</u></b>				
	01310-4060	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	2,847.00	
	01310-2003	LIFE INSURANCE		29.00
	01310-2010	TELEPHONE/RADIO COMM		18.00
	01310-2015	POLICE RECRUITMENT Police recruitment had no budget. It was offset by revenues (recruitment fees) that were not budgeted.		2,800.00



**TOWN OF NEWTOWN**  
**FISCAL YEAR END BUDGET TRANSFERS**  
**2012 - 2013**

<b><u>DEPARTMENT</u></b>	<b><u>ACCOUNT #</u></b>	<b><u>ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION</u></b>	<b><u>FROM</u></b>	<b><u>TO</u></b>
<b><u>FIRE</u></b>				
	01320-3050	EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	11,654.00	
	01320-1001	MARSHALL FEES		166.00
	01320-1005	SECRETARIAL FEES		1,279.00
	01320-2002	FICA		209.00
	01320-3051	TRUCK MAINTENANCE		10,000.00
		Underestimated truck maintenance; overestimated equipment repairs. Transfer is within department budget.		
<b><u>LAND USE</u></b>				
	01490-1002	ADMINISTRATION PAYROLL	3,800.00	
	01490-1004	COURT STENOGRAPHER	2,266.00	
	01490-2014	DUE, TRAINING		823.00
	01490-4061	LEGAL SERVICES		5,243.00
		Transfer is within department budget.		
<b><u>PUBLIC WORKS</u></b>				
	01500-5081	CAPITAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT	46,520.00	
	01500-1003	PAYROLL		876.00
	01500-2016	EQUIPMENT FUEL		1,760.00
	01500-2018	STREET LIGHTS		1,174.00
	01500-2031	EDUCATION & TRAINING		24.00
	01500-2033	PATCHING MATERIALS		9.00
	01500-4060	TREE REMOVAL		21,064.00
	01515-1003	OVERTIME		494.00
	01515-5080	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES		5,460.00
	01650-2018	ELECTRICITY		13,527.00
	01650-2019	WATER		2,132.00
		Transfer is within department budget.		
<b><u>PARKS &amp; RECREATION</u></b>				
	01550-1006	LIFE GUARDS	5,220.00	
	01550-1003	PARK MAINTAINER OVERTIME		1,562.00
	01550-2002	FICA		1,435.00
	01550-2003	LIFE INSURANCE		231.00
	01550-2008	SIGNS		230.00
	01550-2024	POOL EXPENSES		630.00
	01550-2034	SAFETY CLOTHES		1,132.00
		Transfer is within department budget. (OVERTIME & FICA COULD BE REIMBURSED BY SH GRANT)		

TOWN OF NEWTOWN  
FISCAL YEAR END BUDGET TRANSFERS  
2012 - 2013

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>			
<u>ACCOUNT #</u>	<u>ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<u>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u>			
01740-1003	PAYROLL	28.00	
01740-2003	LIFE INSURANCE	25.00	
01740-2007	LONG TERM DISABILITY	33.00	
01740-4060	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	3.00	
01740-2002	FICA		48.00
01740-2014	DUES		41.00
	Transfer is within department budget.		