

January 28, 2014

A Special Joint meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Newton and the Newton Board of Education was held on the above date at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mrs. Diglio, Deputy Mayor Elvidge, Mr. Flynn, Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Town Manager and Lorraine A. Read, Municipal Clerk. Mayor Ricciardo and Mrs. Becker were excused.

Present for the Newton Board of Education were Stella Dunn, President, Steve Goldschmidt, Jessica Egner, Rich Heckman, Ed Caffrey, Tina Larsen, Ann Marie Cooke, Ray Morris, Joan Faye, Nanette Thomas, Linda Gianni, Ms. Snyder, Business Administrator and Dr. Greene, Superintendent.

Deputy Mayor Elvidge made the following declaration that "in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this special meeting was given to the two newspapers of record and posted on the official bulletin board on January 21, 2014."

Mr. Russo gave opening comments and thanked the Newton Board of Education for meeting with the Town Council. Mr. Russo recognized the great relationship the Town holds with the Newton Board of Education and he mentioned that the Town is always looking to build on the relationship with additional opportunities. Mr. Russo noted that the Town and the Board of Education partnered this year and hired a marketing consultant through Community Resource Partners.

Mr. Russo introduced Gina Thomas, Marketing Consultant, who made a PowerPoint presentation on the Newton Community Marketing Campaign. Ms. Thomas outlined the three (3) main components to the marketing strategy: Advertising; Promotion; and Public Relations. Ms. Thomas explained and outlined the timeframe as well as the two phases in the Community Marketing Campaign. A brief outline of upcoming projects/events and meetings attended were provided by Ms. Thomas. Ms. Thomas commended the Newton Board of Education on their strengths and will follow up with the Board on recommendations to improve areas in public relations.

Several questions were addressed by Ms. Thomas.

Mr. Russo outlined some of the key projects going on in the Town of Newton as well as the development and redevelopment projects.

Dr. Ken Greene, Superintendent, briefly addressed the number of students attending the Newton Public Schools and advised that the Board of Education voted to move the fifth (5th) grade to Halsted Middle School, in order to free up space at Merriam Avenue School.

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Dr. Greene thanked the Town for their continued support with the Newton School District and noted that an annual joint meeting of the Town Council and the Newton Board of Education is a helpful tool with the continued dialogue among both boards.

Deputy Mayor Elvidge opened the meeting to the public.

There being no one from the public to be heard, upon motion of Mr. Flynn, seconded by Mrs. Diglio and carried, the Council adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lorraine A. Read". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "d".

Lorraine A. Read, R.M.C.
Municipal Clerk