

July 28, 2008

The regular work session meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Newton was held on the above date at 8:00 p.m.. Present were Mr. Elvidge, Mrs. Unhoch, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Le Frois, Mayor Ricciardo and Town Manager, Eileen Kithcart.

Mayor Ricciardo read the following declaration that “in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this work session meeting was given to the two newspapers of record and posted on the official bulletin board on December 26, 2007”.

CABLE FRANCHISING (WITH MARK HONTZ)

Mr. Mark Hontz, our Town Attorney, was in attendance to discuss the cable franchising process. Mr. Hontz was in attendance four months ago regarding the cable franchise and suggested that a survey be sent to all local school regarding their satisfaction with their current cable service. Mr. Hontz and the Governing Body reviewed these surveys. After a lengthy discussion, Ms. Kithcart would like to include any future facility, such as a community center, on the wish list. Mr. Hontz will create the wish list, based on all the feedback from the community and Council, and submit to Service Electric Cable TV (SECTV). Mr. Hontz will return to Council after a response is received from SECTV.

SCHOOL CROSSING POST

July 28, 2008

Ms. Kithcart reviewed a memo from Chief Tomasula which recommended the elimination of the lunchtime coverage at the corner of Main Street/ Division Street / and Halsted Street. It was noted that in years past this one post served children leaving from half-day Kindergarten at St. Joseph's School and/or Halsted School. But both school programs have evolved to full-day programs and neither school permits students to leave during lunch period, therefore being no need for a crossing guard during lunchtime. After a brief discussion, Council agreed with Chief Tomasula's recommendation.

COUNCIL LETTERHEAD

Ms. Kithcart addressed the Council's request for letterhead. Ms. Kithcart advised that all correspondence from the Mayor or Governing Body should go through the Town Manager's office, therefore the Council did not need letterhead and the request was denied.

ABANDONED VEHICLES

The Town Council had a lengthy discussion regarding the ongoing issues of abandoned vehicles. Council would like to tighten-up this ordinance for better clarification of abandoned vehicles, which was requested a previous Council meeting.

After a lengthy discussion, Ms. Kithcart will forward a letter to Mr. Ray Storm, who is requesting clarification for abandoned vehicles, and

July 28, 2008

advise that the Town Council is looking to tighten-up the ordinance and will advise when completed.

MEMORY PARK SHELTER

Ms. Kithcart advised that it is the suggestion of the Recreation Director, Thomas Trudgeon, Sr. to take down the shelter building at Memory Park which has been unused as well as an “eyesore” for several years. After a lengthy discussion, the Town Council agreed to take down the shelter but requested to leave the slab for future use. It was noted that the Department of Public Works will be taking down the shelter building at Memory Park.

MISCELLANEOUS

Councilman Elvidge addressed his concerns of the damaged retaining walls located on Woodside Avenue. Ms. Kithcart will address the retaining walls on Woodside Avenue.

Council discussed the need for a full-time grant writer and suggested that perhaps could review the option pursuing shared-service with another community for a grant writer.

Upon motion of Mr. Ricciardo, seconded by Mayor Unhoch and carried, the Town Council went into executive session at 9:29 p.m.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Newton (hereinafter referred to as the “Town Council”), convened a meeting in full compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, set forth in N.J.S.A.

July 28, 2008

10:4-12, and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows a public body to enter executive session during a public meeting to discuss certain matters, and

WHEREAS, it has become clear to the Town Council that there is a need to enter executive session to discuss one or more of the exceptions to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, as set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, and

WHEREAS, this work session meeting of the Town Council will not reconvene;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that it will enter executive session to discuss issues related to personnel and litigation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the discussion conducted in executive session by the Newton Town Council shall be disclosed to the public as follows:

PERSONNEL

Ms. Kithcart updated Council on personnel issues.

LITIGATION

Ms. Kithcart updated Council on pending litigation issues.

Upon motion of Mr. Ricciardo, seconded Mr. Elvidge and carried, the Town Council left executive session at 10:29 p.m.

Mayor Ricciardo declared the meeting opened to the public.

There being no one from the public to be heard, upon motion of Mr. Ricciardo, seconded by Mrs., Becker and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

July 28, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine A. Read, RMC
Municipal Clerk