

July 7, 2008

The regular work session meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Newton was held on the above date at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mr. Elvidge, Mrs. Unhoch, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Le Frois, and Town Manager, Eileen Kithcart. Mayor Ricciardo was excused.

Deputy Mayor Elvidge 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”.

CODIFICATION PRESENTATION – GENERAL CODE CONSULTANTS

The Town Manager, Ms. Kithcart, Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Oswin, Community Development Director, Mrs. Millikin and Municipal Clerk, Mrs. Read met with two companies back in November, 2007 for information regarding their services. After the two proposals were submitted and reviewed, the Town requested Mr. Babb of General Code to make a presentation to the Newton Town Council.

Mr. Earl Babb, regional representative for General Code made a presentation for the codification services to the Newton Town Council. Mr. Babb outlined all the components to complete the re-codification project for the Town of Newton. After a lengthy presentation, Mr. Babb provided a detailed breakdown of the cost and payment schedule as well as their performance schedule. It was noted that there would be an additional cost for the E-Code Annual Maintenance (from 2nd year forward) of \$995.00. After a brief question and answer period, the Town Council thanked Mr. Babb for his presentation.

Ms. Kithcart advised that this project, “Codification”, may be paid for by Special Emergency, allowing for it to be paid for over a three (3) year

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period.

UPDATE WITH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

A. PAVING SCHEDULE

Mrs. Millikin updated Council on the current paving projects in the Town of Newton. All of the streets being paved should be completed by the end of this week.

B. WATERLINE

Mrs. Millikin updated Council on the current status of the water main project at Water/Trinity Street.

C. REDEVELOPMENT

Mrs. Millikin advised that the two redevelopment plans are moving forward. Ms. Millikin outlined the schedule for both plans. Mr. Ross Shealey and his associate, of A. Nelessen and Associates will be in attendance at the next Council meeting to update the Council on the redevelopment plans.

MAIN STREET NEWTON – MATCHING FUNDS CONTRIBUTION

Ms. Kithcart advised that the Main Street Newton Executive Board requested a clarification for the matching funds from the Town of Newton. After a brief discussion, Council clearly recalls that the intension was to match funds for cash contribution only, not in-kind contribution (ie. use of office space; computer equipment, donated furniture). Ms. Kithcart will relay the intentions of the Newton Town Council to the Main Street Executive Board.

Ms. Kithcart confirmed that Mrs. Le Frois and Mayor Ricciardo will be representing the Town of Newton on Main Street Newton committee. Ms. Kithcart will provide the executive director, Carola Hartley, with Mrs. Le Frois contact information.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Kithcart advised that Mayor Ricciardo would like to be appointed, with Council approval, to the several municipalities getting together to organize and challenge the legality of the new rules with New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing (COAH). Council agreed that Mayor Ricciardo would be a great representative for the Town of Newton.

Ms. Kithcart addressed the request from the Greater Newton Chamber of Commerce for permission to hang a banner over Spring Street to advertise the upcoming Sidewalk Sales. Council had no objection to the request.

Ms. Kithcart requested permission to purchase an automatic sprinkler system for the front of the Municipal Building. It will be a great asset due to the new landscaping improvements at Town Hall. Council agreed with the purchase of automatic sprinkler system.

Deputy Mayor Elvidge requested a “revisit” of the parking spaces on Spring Street and Moran Street and was advised that the elimination of parking spaces was a recommendation for safety as well as state mandated.

Councilwoman Le Frois expressed her concern surrounding the terminated contract with Newton Memorial Hospital and Horizon Blue Cross/Blue Shield of New Jersey. It was noted that the contract was the issue of Newton Hospital, therefore writing letters to our legislators would not help. Council is hoping the issues get resolved since it affects many community members.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Elvidge, seconded by Mrs. Unhoch and carried, the Town Council went into executive session at 8:36 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. 10:4-

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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

Mrs. Kithcart updated Council on other pending personnel issues.

LITIGATION

Mrs. Kithcart updated Council on pending litigation issues.

Upon motion of Mrs. Becker, seconded by Mr. Elvidge and carried, the Town Council left executive session at 9:15 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

Deputy Mayor Elvidge declared the meeting opened to the public.

There being no one from the public to be heard, upon motion of Mrs. Le Frois, seconded by Mr. Elvidge and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine A. Read
Municipal Clerk