

March 22, 2010

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

Mayor Elvidge made the following declaration that “in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this public meeting was given to the two newspapers of record and posted on the official bulletin board on December 31, 2009.”

Pastor Boger of the First Baptist Church led the invocation. Mayor Elvidge led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The Clerk called the roll and upon completion of same, upon motion of Mr. Ricciardo, seconded by Mrs. Unhoch and unanimously carried, that the minutes of March 8, 2010 (Regular) meeting were approved as presented.

PUBLIC

Mr. Doug Radigan, 23 Madison Street, addressed the Council to advise that he was getting signatures from residents in the Town of Newton for the purpose of running for the House of Representatives. Council wished Mr. Radigan luck in his endeavor.

Mr. Neil Flaherty, 154 Sparta Avenue, advised Council that the Newton Robotics Team, from Newton High School, will be attending their first competition and tournament to be held at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Flaherty advised that the event will take place on April 15th – 17th, 2010 and the students are looking for sponsors to help support the 17 member team in their endeavor. The team has raised \$11,000 of the \$17,000 needed and are looking for additional sponsors.

Mr. Russo indicated that the Town cannot sponsor an individual groups or organizations from the Town budget, but the Council could sponsor individually, if desired.

Mrs. Sandy Diglio, 5 Paterson Place, read a letter on behalf of the Newton First Aid Squad which was disseminated to the Governing Body.

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To the Newton Town Council:

“At the last meeting there was a difference of opinion as to the number of calls the Newton First Aid Squad took in the 2009 year. Consequently, I requested an actual count of calls which I have attached for your review.

The total independent calls which we took was 64%, assisted calls totaled another 16%, cancelled calls represent 2% for an actual total of 83% of calls taken by the NFAS. In addition we responded to 32 football games, 3 graduations, 1 Newton Day, 3 Parades, and 2 motorcycle runs. So the actual percentage of calls taken is even higher than the 83%. Another 4% of the calls are listed as No Response, but no response was needed. Calls taken by Mutual Aid, Patrol

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Transports, and Paramedic Transports represent only 14% and some of those calls the NFAS did respond.

In speaking with Keith Mitchell I was advised the cost of Workman's Compensation for the NFAS would be approximately \$4000.00 prorated for this year. This represents a small fraction of a percent in the Town budget, and in reviewing the budget, I did notice the line item for Workman's Compensation for the Town was increased almost \$45,000 or an almost 45% increase.

The NFAS is requesting the Town Council to please continue to provide the \$32,000 donation and pay for the insurance. Please keep in mind the Squad does maintain the ambulance provided to us by the Town. If possible we would appreciate it if the Town could absorb the water bill which totals approximately \$500.00 per year.

I will be consulting with Keith Mitchell this Thursday to see if additional savings can be made by switching from our present provider to his agency. He has also offered to help the Squad to possible get a reimbursement for overpayment of Workman's Compensation.

The Squad has been serving the residents of Newton for over 53 years. We have not asked for much during those years, and as the Town Manager pointed out, we were given the same amount of donation for numerous years when costs were going higher and higher for medical supplies, gas, and maintenance of the rigs and building, etc. Please keep this in mind as you consider your decision."

Sincerely,
Sandra Lee Diglio
Treasurer

Council addressed questions regarding the number of calls as well as the call procedure of the Newton First Aid Squad, which was addressed by Dave Dolan, Irv Kinney and Sandy Diglio. After a brief discussion, Council requested Mrs. Diglio to contact Keith Mitchell and recheck the actual number of volunteers covered by the Workman's Compensation for the Newton First Aid Squad.

COUNCIL & MANAGER REPORTS

The 9-1-1 Consolidation scheduled to be heard this evening has been postponed, Mr. Russo stated.

Mr. Russo read several items of importance from a list of "50 Uses for Census Data".

1. Reapportioning 435 seats in the U.S.
2. Distributing over \$300 billion in federal funds
3. Distributing state funds
4. Understanding consumer needs
5. Locating factory sites and distribution
6. Planning for religious congregations
7. Forecasting future transportation needs and improving commuting patterns
8. Forecasting future housing needs
9. Directing funds for services among impoverished populations
10. Designing public safety strategies
11. Planning rural development
12. Planning urban development
13. Creating public and private sector surveys
14. Analyzing local trends
15. Conducting land use planning
16. Aiding in rescue and recovery of disaster.

ORDINANCES

Mayor Elvidge directed the Clerk to read aloud the following Ordinance relative to final adoption.

ORDINANCE #2010-03

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 10, TRAFFIC OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, the Newton Town Council requested that the Newton Police Department perform a traffic study to evaluate the safety and the quality of life for those living on Ryerson Avenue in the vicinity of Newton High School; and

WHEREAS, the results of said traffic study indicate there is a need to restrict parking on Ryerson Avenue during school hours;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that Chapter 10 of the Revised General Ordinance be amended as follows:

Add the following:

SCHEDULE I

NO PARKING

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Side</u>	<u>Location</u>
Ryerson Avenue	East	From the south curb line of Condit Street extending 100 feet in a southerly direction

Amend to read as follows:

SCHEDULE II

PARKING PROHIBITED DURING CERTAIN HOURS

ON CERTAIN STREETS

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Side</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Location</u>
Ryerson Avenue	West	7:00am to 4:00pm	Beginning at a point 675 feet south of school days the curb line of Ashford Street to the east curb line of Douma Drive

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall take effect according to law.

Mayor Elvidge declared the hearing on Ordinance #2010-03 open to the public.

There being no one from the public to be heard, upon motion by Mrs. Le Frois, seconded by Mrs. Becker and unanimously carried, the hearing was closed.

Mr. Ricciardo addressed his concerns stating the Ordinance does not address the solution to the parking problem, but rather moves it to a different location. Mr. Ricciardo feels we should meet with the Board of Education to address this issue with them, in order to come up with a solution for the parking issues at Newton High School.

At this time, Mayor Elvidge declared the hearing on Ordinance #2010-03 re-opened to the public.

Mrs. Sandra Diglio, 5 Paterson Place, suggested that perhaps the use of the parking lot at the Unitarian Church at the end of West Nelson Street and was advised that this site had been used in previous years, but that the students left litter all over, therefore it is not available.

Mr. Ray Storm, 202 Main Street, suggested eliminating student parking around the school and allowing residents to park by permit only.

Mr. Anwar Qarmout, 45 Woodside Avenue, suggested that the students of Newton High School be challenged to come up with a solution to the parking problem.

Mr. Russo indicated that the Town created this Ordinance after much discussion with the Town Engineer, the Newton Police Department, and the Newton School District and advised that this is the recommendation decided upon.

There being no one further from the public to be heard, upon motion by Mrs. Le Frois, seconded by Mrs. Becker and unanimously carried, the hearing was closed.

The following **ORDINANCE** was offered by Mrs. Le Frois, who moved its adoption, seconded by Mrs. Becker and roll call resulted as follows:

Mrs. Unhoch	Yes	Mrs. Becker	Yes
Mrs. Le Frois	Yes	Mr. Ricciardo	No
	Mayor Elvidge	Yes	

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the above Ordinance be adopted in its entirety according to law.

The Clerk will advertise the above Ordinance according to law.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to be discussed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Elvidge read the following statement:

“All items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Town Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda.”

Mrs. Unhoch requested Resolution #37-2010 removed from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion.

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RESOLUTION #34 -2010*

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF NEWTON AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR
GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE HAZARDOUS DISCHARGE SITE
REMEDIATION FUND**

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2009, the Town of Newton (the “Town”) issued a Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for Environmental Engineering Services to the Town for development and redevelopment purposes; and

WHEREAS, the RFP process was conducted in a fair and open manner in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, Excel Environmental Resources, Inc., North Brunswick, New Jersey, submitted a response to the RFP; and

WHEREAS, the Town reviewed the response submitted by Excel Environmental Resources, Inc., and authorized Excel Environmental Resources, Inc. to provide said Environmental Engineering Services as set forth in Resolution #55-2009; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (“NJDEP”), through the Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund (“HDSRF”), has grant funds (“Grant Funds”) available to municipalities for the purpose of funding preliminary assessments, site investigations, remedial investigations and/or remedial actions to determine the existence or extent of hazardous substance discharge conditions on properties; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to conduct preliminary assessments, site investigations, remedial investigations and/or remedial actions with respect to certain properties located in the Town, including, but not necessarily limited to, Block 1208, Lot 11; and

WHEREAS, the Town owns the property designated as Block 1208, Lot 11; and

WHEREAS, there is a realistic opportunity for the redevelopment of the Property within three years following completion of remediation; and

WHEREAS, Excel Environmental Resources, Inc. is qualified to prepare and submit applications on behalf of the Town for Grant Funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Newton, in the County of Sussex, as follows:

1. Excel Environmental Resources, Inc. is hereby authorized to apply for Grant Funds in order to conduct preliminary assessments, site investigations, remedial investigations and/or remedial actions for properties located in the Town, including but not limited to, Block 1208, Lot 11.
2. The Town Manager is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all documents necessary in order to apply for said Grant Funds.
3. In the event that Grant Funds are approved pursuant to a grant issued in favor of the Town, Excel Environmental Resources, Inc. is hereby authorized and directed to implement preliminary assessments, site investigations, remedial investigations and/or remedial actions for properties, with payment for aforesaid services to be made to Excel Environmental Resources, Inc. from the Grant Funds in accordance with the contract to be entered into by the Town and the NJDEP.

RESOLUTION #35-2010*

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE MAIN STREET
NEWTON, INC. ORGANIZATION FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2010**

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WHEREAS, the Town of Newton recognizes the importance of the downtown as it relates to the economic health and quality of life of the entire community; and

WHEREAS, the continued improvement, revitalization and development of the downtown is a critical municipal goal; and

WHEREAS, a local Main Street Program organization, known as Main Street Newton, Inc., comprised of private and public community leaders, has been formed to stimulate economic development and preservation of the downtown, thereby lessening the burden of municipal government; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Newton had originally committed, through Resolution 5-2007, a matching fund amount, not to exceed \$40,000 per year, for four successive years beginning in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Newton acknowledges that a significant downturn in the economy of New Jersey and the United States creates an even greater need this year for the success of the Main Street Newton, Inc. organization and program; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Newton is committed to providing financial support in the municipal budget to the Main Street Newton, Inc. organization for calendar year 2010, without the matching fund restriction, in a total amount not to exceed \$40,000, and

WHEREAS, partial funding in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 shall be provided to the Main Street Newton, Inc. organization in a lump sum payment after adoption of this Resolution for purposes restricted to the payment of salary of the Main Street Newton Executive Director; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the Executive Director and Board President of Main Street Newton, Inc. will keep the Town Council informed of the progress being made by the organization as it relates to meeting their 2010 fundraising goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Newton:

1. Agrees to provide financial support for the Main Street Newton, Inc. organization by making a current budget appropriation in the 2010 budget year not to exceed \$40,000, without any matching fund restriction.
2. Strongly reaffirm its support of the Main Street Newton, Inc. organization by immediately releasing a quarter, or \$10,000, of the total 2010 appropriations, in support of this vital program, with these funds to be solely utilized for the purposes of the Executive Director's salary.
3. Looks to meet with the leadership of Main Street Newton, Inc. in June of this year to address the status and apportionment of the remaining appropriations balance of \$30,000.

RESOLUTION #36-2010*

TO CANCEL OUTSTANDING CHECKS IN THE BAIL ACCOUNT

WHEREAS, there are checks which have not been cashed in the following Town of Newton funds; and

WHEREAS, those checks have been reviewed to determine if they should be canceled to fund balance so as not to be required to escheat them to the State of New Jersey;

NOW, THEREFORE BE RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton, that the following outstanding checks are hereby cancelled:

BAIL FUND

Check #3767 \$124.00 issued 4-16-09 to Kevin Lyon
 Check #3787 \$11.00 issued 6-4-09 to Jodie A Harby

RESOLUTION #38-2010*

APPROVE 2009 APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the following 2009 appropriation reserve transfers be approved effective this date:

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Clerk OE 1051201A	Zoning Board OE 1062316A	\$ 2,500.
Elections OE 1051501A	Legal OE 1058201A	\$ 2,000.
Road OE 1080259A	Shade Tree OE 1083200A	\$ 1,000.
Police OE 1074206A	Accumulated Absence 1094400A	\$ 5,000.
Utilities OE 1089229A	Accumulated Absence 1094400A	\$15,000.
Employee Group Insurance OE 1066200A	Social Security 1098298A	\$ 250.
TOTAL		<u>\$25,750.</u>

RESOLUTION #39-2010*

AMENDMENT TO 2010 TEMPORARY OPERATING BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Newton adopted the 2010 Temporary Operating Budget and Temporary Water and Sewer Utility Budget by Resolution #280-2009 dated December 28, 2009; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides that the Governing Body, by resolution adopted by a 2/3 vote of the full membership, may make amendments to temporary budgets in an amount not to exceed one-twelfth (1/12) of the preceding year's Budget (2009 Budget \$8,422,573 x 1/12 = \$701,881) and that a copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of Local Government Services;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the 2010 Temporary Operating Budget be hereby amended as follows:

**TOWN OF NEWTON
 2010 TEMPORARY BUDGET AMENDMENT**

<u>Current Account</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Amt of Amendment</u>
Parks & Playgrounds OE	1091239	\$ 6,000
Tax Collection OE	1056226	2,000
Statutory Expend: DCRP	1098294	100
Statutory Expend: Social Security	1098298	30,000
Supplemental Redevelopment/Planning	1095309	<u>117,000</u>
Total Current Temp Amendment		\$155,100

2009 TOWN OF NEWTON BUDGET

<u>CURRENT</u>		<u>WATER/SEWER</u>
\$10,342,468	Total 2009 General Appropriations	\$4,160,000
1,261,782	Less: Debt Service	1,332,631
163,000	Capital Improvements	310,000
<u>495,113</u>	Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	<u>0</u>
\$8,422,573	Total Amount to calculate upon	\$2,517,369
<u>x 1/12</u>		<u>x 1/12</u>
\$701,881	Allowable 2010 Temporary Budget Amend.	\$209,780

The Clerk presented an application from Steven I. Velastegin, 682 Limecrest Road, Andover Township for membership to the Newton Fire Department. It was noted that the Application was in order and signed by the Chief of the Fire Department.

A motion was made by Mrs. Becker to approve the **COMBINED ACTION RESOLUTIONS**, seconded by Mr. Ricciardo and roll call resulted as follows:

Mrs. Unhoch	Yes	Mrs. Becker	Yes
Mrs. Le Frois	Yes	Mr. Ricciardo	Yes
Mayor Elvidge	Yes		

RESOLUTION #37-2010

APPROVE BILLS AND VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that payment is hereby approved for all vouchers that have been properly authenticated and presented for payment, representing expenditures for which appropriations were duly made in the 2008 and 2009 Budgets adopted by this local Governing Body, including any emergency appropriations, and where unexpended balances exist in said appropriation accounts for the payment of such vouchers.

TOWN BILLS

1,260.00	VOID	26716
16,811.68	JCP&L	26726
203,490.25	Payroll Account	1010012
176.00	Quill Corporation	26727
233.80	Montague Tool & Supply	26728
248.00	M G L Printing Solutions	26729
844.38	Harold Pellow & Associates, Inc.	26730
5,450.00	Municipal Software, Inc.	26731
180.00	ABCCode Security	26732
150.00	Sussex Car Wash, Inc.	26733
452.00	Classic Auto Upholstery	26734
8,673.28	NUI Corporation	26735
894.23	SMCUA	26736
150.00	Michael D. Teets	26737
390.00	B & G Elevator Inc.	26738
2,186.00	Hollander, Hontz, Hinkes & Pasculli, LLC	26739
150.00	Arthur & Rita Frisbie	26740
150.00	John & Terry Iliff	26741
2,416.50	Thea Unhoch	26742
5,197.68	Delta Dental	26743
194.00	Christopher Bond	26744
53.40	Campbell's Small Engine	26745

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396.00	Neopost Leasing	26746
431.54	Tri-State Rentals, Inc.	26747
61.72	Federal Express	26748
8,000.00	Newton First Aid Squad	26749
37.50	Joseph Inga	26750
187.50	Thomas Trudgeon	26751
200.00	Scott Holzhauer	26752
7.00	Peter J. Kays	26753
1,300.00	Willco, Inc.	26754
7.00	William F. Smith	26755
37.50	Brock Kithcart	26756
2,070.00	T. A. Mountford Company	26757
7.00	William Hagaman	26758
213.00	Microsystems-NJ Com, LLC	26759
113.02	Sebring Auto Parts	26760
126.75	Zee Medical	26761
605.21	Dempsey Uniform & Supply Inc.	26762
237.50	Debra Millikin	26763
45.81	Airgas East	26764
1,573.00	Royal Communications	26765
7.00	Ervin Lasso	26766
1,471.44	McGuire	26767
7,385.83	Weiner Lesniak	26768
311.00	Rutgers Center for Government Services	26769
150.00	Jason Miller	26770
270.00	NJRPA	26771
120.00	IACP – Membership	26772
76.00	Eileen Kithcart	26773
73.50	Mr. John	26774
312.50	Alternate Power Inc.	26775
240.50	Cooper Electric Supply Co.	26777
675.00	Vogel, Chait, Collins, Schneider, PC	26778
492.50	Access Control Technology	26779
44.90	Excelsior Lumber Company	26780
37.50	Tania L. Ell	26781
82.25	Tritec Office Equipment Inc.	26782
378.21	Staples Business Advantage	26783
150.00	Katherine Citterbart	26784
10,000.00	Main Street	26785
7.00	Steve Estler	26786
50.00	NJ Drug Recognition Experts Assoc.	26787
6,535.37	Rachles/Michele's Oil Company	26788
4,197.06	Taylor Oil Co.	26789
47.50	Firefighter One	26790
2,250.00	Laddey, Clark & Ryan, LLP	26791
150.00	Ronald Clouse	26792
96.75	County of Sussex	26793
49.14	Tony Sanchez, LTD.	26794
1,000.00	Paul Cowie & Associates	26795
850.00	Gramco Business Communications	26796
65.00	Sparctech Solutions, LLC	26797
375.00	Knapp, Trimboli & Prusinowski, LLC	26798
9,420.90	Atlantic Salt, Inc.	26799
518.00	APCO, Inc.	26800
730.00	Chelbus Cleaning Co., Inc.	26801
115.20	custom Products Corporation	26802
495.00	NJ Homicide Investigator's Assoc.	26803
25.00	Heidi Lentini	26804
194.00	Harry C. Mack	26805
76.00	Michael Meeker	26806
76.00	Steve Mills	26807
194.00	Arthur Sibblies	26808

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209,439.00	Payroll Account	1010013
496,646.00	Payroll Account	1010014

CAPITAL

750.00	Harold Pellow & Assoc., Inc.	7502
72.00	VOID	7503
3,709.50	Access Control Technology	7504
960.00	Garden State Highway Products	7505
4,680.00	FKA Architects	7506

Total TOWN BILLS \$1,028,795.81

WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNT

23,796.77	JCP&L	11365
428.07	State of New Jersey-PWT	106007
29,550.24	Payroll Account	106008
1,635.88	Schmidt's Wholesale	11366
1,320.00	Harold Pellow & Assoc., Inc.	11367
5,244.00	Municipal Software, Inc.	11368
4,931.28	MWH Americas, Inc.	11369
3,999.67	NUI Corporation	11370
10,054.35	Pumping Services	11371
151.32	SCMUA	11372
14.00	Paul M. Havens	11373
13,574.28	Coyne Chemical Corp., Inc.	11374
30.22	Centurylink Communications, Inc.	11375
82.88	Rowe & Company, Inc.	11376
781.36	Delta Dental	11377
964.00	Garden State Laboratories, Inc.	11378
345.81	Dempsey Uniform & Supply, Inc.	11379
20.00	One Call Systems	11380
3,840.00	R & D Trucking Inc.	11381
96.02	Airgas East	11382
16.00	Ervin Lasso	11383
1,100.00	Instrumentation Tech Systems, Inc.	11384
200.00	Treasurer, State of New Jersey	11385
1,250.00	John Smalley	11386
1,335.00	Alternate Power Inc.	11387
1,182.34	Kistler O'Brien Fire Protection	11388
946.00	Process Tech Sale & Service	11389
13.12	County of Sussex	11390
43.53	United States Plastic Corp.	11391
182.01	NASCO	11392
240.00	Dave Heiner Associates, Inc.	11393
11,760.00	Payroll Account	106009

CAPITAL

5,135.00	Harold Pellow & Assoc., Inc.	2146
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Total WATER & SEWER BILLS \$124,263.15

TRUST ACCOUNT

1,278.00	Payroll Account	107106
990.00	Harold Pellow & Assoc. Inc.	2757
900.00	Hollander, Hontz, Hinkes & Pasculli LLC	2758
1,125.00	James P. Sloan, PC	2759
96.00	Weiner Lesniak	2760

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450.00	Daniel Colfax	2761
525.00	Vogel, Chait, Collins, Schneider, PC	2762
2,696.00	Sicard	2763

Total TRUST ACCOUNT BILLS \$8,060.63

A motion was made by Mrs. Becker to approve **RESOLUTION #37-2010**, seconded by Mrs. Le Frois and roll call resulted as follows:

Mrs. Unhoch	Yes	Mrs. Becker	Yes
Mrs. Le Frois	Yes	Mr. Ricciardo	Yes
	Mayor Elvidge	Yes	

It was noted that Mrs. Unhoch abstained from P.O. #34911.

INTERMISSION – 7:58pm – 8:11pm

DISCUSSION

A. 2010 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mr. Russo read into the minutes the following correspondence.

TO: Town Council

FROM: Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Town Manager

DATE: March 22, 2010

SUBJECT: Updated Budget Numbers

CC: D. Millikin, D. Babcock, File

As you are aware, the State of New Jersey released the Municipal Aid numbers last week, and the Town of Newton was apprised of a **17.5%** cut in same, totaling **\$216,401**. To absorb a cut of this magnitude required extensive analysis today by my team. Here are some suggestions which still leave us approximately **\$40,000** shy of the necessary \$216,401 in cuts and approximately **\$70,000** shy of meeting the Cap Calculation requirement of the State of New Jersey.

REVENUE ENHANCEMENTS:

- ✓ \$27,500 Utilization of additional Surplus
- ✓ \$7,000 Anticipation of additional Construction fees

EXPENSE CUTS:

- ✓ \$20,000 Main Street Newton
- ✓ \$16,401 Legal
- ✓ \$7,814 Health Benefits – Council – change from Family Coverage to Single
- ✓ \$29,832 Elimination of non-union raises in 2010 for both full and part-time staff
- ✓ \$5,000 Utilities
- ✓ \$16,000 Overtime – Police, CENCOM, Parks, DPW
- ✓ \$5,000 Capital Improvement Fund
- ✓ \$250 Elections
- ✓ \$400 Collection of Taxes
- ✓ \$2,000 Engineering – Other
- ✓ \$5,654 Buildings and Grounds – Contractual Services
- ✓ \$2,000 Shade Tree Commission

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- ✓ \$650 Machinery Repair
- ✓ \$1,000 Snow Removal – Other
- ✓ \$750 Vehicle Maintenance
- ✓ \$500 Celebration of Public Events
- ✓ \$500 Human Resources – Other
- ✓ \$5,000 Accumulated Absence
- ✓ \$500 Town Manager – Meetings
- ✓ \$300 Finance – Education/Training
- ✓ \$1,000 Court
- ✓ \$450 Planning Board – Meetings & Education / Training
- ✓ \$400 Zoning Board – Meetings
- ✓ \$1,000 Community Development – Consultant Services
- ✓ \$850 Community Development – Education / Training & Meetings
- ✓ \$500 Police – Printing
- ✓ \$2,500 Road – Storm Drain Repairs and Traffic Materials
- ✓ \$500 Recycling / Sanitation
- ✓ \$100 Board of Health – Meetings
- ✓ \$500 Interlocal 9-1-1 – Radio Repair
- ✓ \$15,000 Municipal Building Improvements – moved from CIF to Debt Authorized

Please note that this analysis also assumes that the approximately \$5,000 in 2010 Newton First Aid Squad Work. Comp. costs are included as part of the \$32,000 already allocated in the budget.

Mr. Russo noted that all of the Unions were sent a letter asking them to freeze their salary wages for 2010, while perhaps allowing their contract to extend another year and all Unions rejected that request. Mr. Russo also invited the Unions to meet with him to discuss the necessary budget cuts in operations which were also declined by all Unions.

Council had much discussion on the Main Street Newton cut as well any changes to Council Health Benefits.

Mr. Russo outlined the avenues he pursued as a cost savings to the Town (i.e. shared services, utility audits, fee ordinance increases, part-time staff adjustments, health benefits changes, etc.).

After a lengthy discussion, the consensus of the Governing Body was to move forward with the initial budget cuts presented by Mr. Russo this evening minus the Council Health Benefit changes, in addition to directing him to move forward with personnel layoffs, in order to make up the \$40,000 shortfall. Mr. Russo will provide a ‘RICE notice’ to those employees who are affected.

It was noted that the Newton First Aid Squad will receive the \$32,000 minus the cost of the Workman’s Compensation, which will be approximately \$5,000.

Mr. Russo will also review the overtime expenditures to see if additional cuts can be made. Mr. Russo noted that his goal is to get the Municipal Budget to a 6.75 cent increase.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Anwar Qarmout, 45 Woodside Ave. suggested that the Town should be in “survival mode” and agreed with cutting personnel.

Mr. Ray Storm, 202 Main Street, expressed his feeling that Main Street Newton is not working and congratulated the Council members who agreed to cut \$20,000 from Main Street Newton. Mr. Storm suggested cutting the hours in Construction Department, since building/construction is not viable at this point in time.

Mrs. Sandy Diglio, 5 Paterson Place, inquired why the Workman’s Compensation line item in the Municipal Budget is about a 45% increase and was advised by Mr. Russo that he will provide the answer to her in writing tomorrow.

COUNCIL & MANAGER COMMENTS

Mr. Russo noted that the nomination of Freeholder Hal Wirths is in jeopardy as State Labor Commissioner and suggested that Council look for the article in tomorrow’s newspaper.

Mayor Elvidge inquired about the most recent Ordinance adopted, which amended the Municipal Code to ensure that all new construction, including reconstruction and rehabilitation, within the Town of Newton is designed and constructed with adequate fire protection capability. Mayor Elvidge addressed his concern about the adoption of the code and inquired whether the code referred to has been adopted by the State. Mr. Russo noted that several codes were addressed in Ordinance 2010-2 and he will have Mr. Inga copy all of the codes for Mayor Elvidge’s review.

There being no further business to be conducted, upon motion of Mrs. Unhoch, seconded by Mrs. Le Frois and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine A. Read, RMC
Municipal Clerk