



"City Style. Country Cool."

The Newton News

Volume 30, Issue 2

Fall 2017

The Town Manager's Message...

I have recently concluded my 9th year as your Town Manager and I must say I continue to be blessed to lead such a fine community. We have many exciting updates to talk about so let's get down to business.

Several fees have been eliminated by the Town Council in order to attract more entrepreneurs to our community.

We welcomed several new staff members including our new Tax Collector Theresa Schlosser and new Patrolman Jared Zappa.

We hosted several students who participated in our first internship program this summer.

We received a \$10,000 grant to initiate another Safe Streets campaign with our friends at TransOptions. The program will run next spring/summer.

We launched our redesigned municipal website as well as our business partner website.

Bids were rejected for the new Firehouse No. 2 - the project will be split into two parts - demolition of the existing building will be one bid and the construction of the new facility will be the second bid.

We discussed downtown revitalization with our friends in Somerville and Haddonfield. Students from Seton Hall University commenced a market research project which will yield results in December to assist us in planning for a very busy 2018 marketing campaign.

We finished our Fox Hollow watermain project in Sparta and commenced our sewer line inspection project.

We finished the successful milling and paving of Liberty Street and Madison Street.

We had one of the most successful years at the Newton Pool to date, and hope that you will explore joining the pool for next season when even more activities and improvements are planned.

We continued to marvel at the tremendous progress being made on the Newton Town Centre senior housing project on Spring Street. We look forward to the grand opening this winter!

Finally, please remember to support our local businesses of all sizes - they are the engine which drives the economy. We encourage those with a passion for retail to consider opening up shop in Newton, especially in the downtown. Remember: The key to managing property taxes is the pursuit of quality commercial ratables, and our staff is committed to being business and customer-friendly so individuals and companies are comfortable investing their capital in Newton's commercial areas.

Our Town Council, staff, professionals and volunteers take great pride in their efforts to make Newton the special place that it is and are to be commended. **Together we will continue to make a difference.** Thank you once again for reading our publication and please accept my best wishes to you and yours for good health and happiness during this beautiful fall season and during the upcoming holidays.

Yours in Service,

Thomas S. Russo, Jr.

Town Manager

The Newton News

Editors - Terri Oswin & Thomas S. Russo, Jr.

#newtonnj

Dates of Interest

- Halloween Parade
Oct. 31
- Fall Leaf & Brush Pickup
Nov. 6 thru Dec. 1
- Election Day
Nov. 7
- Veterans' Day Observed
Town Hall Closed
Nov. 10
- NMC Festival of Lights
Nov. 11
- Thanksgiving Holiday
Town Hall Closed
Nov. 23 & 24
- GNCC Holiday Parade
Nov. 25
- Senior Holiday Dinner
Dec. 4
- Operation Santa
Dec. 10
- Municipal Tree Lighting
Dec. 11
- Christmas Eve Observed
Town Hall Closed
Dec. 22
- Christmas Day
Dec. 25
- Free Rabies Clinic
Jan. 6, 2018

Recent Ordinances

The Newton Town Council recently adopted several ordinances of interest:

Ordinance 2016-14 required criminal background checks for recreational volunteers with the Town.

Ordinance 2016-17 amended the water and sewer rates and changed the quarterly billing dates to March 25, June 25, September 25 and December 25.

Ordinance 2017-1 updated the sign standards for Electronic Message Boards.

Ordinance 2017-3 adjusted the pool rates.

Ordinance 2017-10 established a mechanism to identify and track vacant and abandoned residential and commercial properties in the Town commercial/industrial structures within the downtown Historic District.

Ordinance 2017-16 reduced and eliminated certain fees for Planning Board applications and Retail Food Establishments for businesses within the Town.

Ordinance 2017-17 clarified the definition of amusement devices and amended the fees for such amusement devices within the Town.

Ordinance 2017-20 amended parking regulations on the northeast side of Halsted Street from Madison Street to Main Street.

To review Town ordinances that have recently been adopted visit our website at www.newtontownhall.com/ordinances

The staff of the Town of Newton is here to assist the public whenever possible. Please use the following list of extensions when dialing 973-383-3521 to contact a municipal staff member.

- 224 Manager's Office
- 225 Tax Assessor
- 227 Planning/Zoning



- 228 Recreation
- 232 Municipal Clerk
- 233 Treasurer
- 239 Tax Collector
- 240 Utility Collector

- 241 Finance Officer/CFO
- 242 Court Administrator
- 254 Human Resources
- 256 Code Enforcement



OTHER NUMBERS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Public Works | 973-383-4160 |
| Recycling Center | 973-383-1521 |
| Memory Park Pool | 973-383-2810 |
| Sewer Treatment Plant | 973-383-2090 |
| Police Department (Non-emergency) | 973-383-2525 |

Fall Leaf & Brush Pickup

The Town of Newton will once again combine a brush pick-up with the annual leaf collection program in November. The Public Works crew will begin the Collection Program on Monday, November 6, 2017 and will continue until Friday, December 1, 2017. The leaf and brush pickup will follow the Recycling Zone schedule for the entire week.

Please put the bags and brush out at the curb line and not in the street. This will avoid interference with traffic and possible breakage of the bags. Tree limbs must be smaller than 4 inches in diameter (no exceptions). The clean-up is intended for residents to clear away naturally occurring fallen brush and light pruning. Property owners are responsible for felled trees.

The leaves and brush will be taken to the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority (SCMUA) facility for disposal. SCMUA will only accept leaves in biodegradable bags. The bags can be purchased at local home improvement stores. Residents may take leaves/brush to SCMUA for disposal themselves, but a small fee may be charged by the County facility.

Christmas Tree Pickup

The Public Works crew will be picking up Christmas trees beginning December 26, 2017 through January 12, 2018. All trees must be free of bases, lights and ornaments.



Operation Santa

The Newton Fire Department will be hosting the 12th Annual "Operation Santa" on Saturday, December 16th. With the help of the Newton Fire Department, Santa will visit residents of **NEWTON** on a Fire Truck beginning at 2:00 PM. Look for more information soon on the Newton Fire Department's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/NewtonFD/.

Reminders from the Clerk's Office...

The free rabies clinic will be held January 6, 2018 at the Newton Public Works Garage, 117 Moran Street from 9:00 AM to Noon. License application forms may be downloaded at www.newtontownhall.com/licenses. **NOTE: The State of New Jersey mandates that the current rabies vaccination cannot expire before November 1st of the current year (2017).** Dogs can safely be vaccinated every two years.

2018 Dog and Cat license fees are:

Dogs: \$15.00 Spayed/Neutered \$18.00 Non-Spayed/Non-Neutered Cats: \$12.00

Late fee is \$5.00 each month per dog beginning 2/1/18.

Polls are open 6:00 AM to 8:00p PM for the General Election on Tuesday, November 7, 2017.

Polling Places in Newton:

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| #1 & #2 | Newton Fire House | 22 Mill St. |
| #3 & #5 | Newton Municipal Building | 39 Trinity St. |
| #4 | NFAS Building | 8 Sussex St. |
| #6 | First United Methodist Church | 111 Ryerson Ave. |

For more information on **voting**, you may call the Board of Elections @ 973-579-0950.

RECREATION HAPPENINGS



Radio City Music “Christmas Spectacular” Bus Trip: Join us for a day in NYC and leave the driving to us!! Sunday, November 26, 2017. Arrive at the Park and Ride (behind Shoprite) in Newton at 8:30 AM. The chartered bus will leave at 9:00 AM. We will be seeing a 2:00 PM show. This will give you lots of time to shop and have lunch. Bus will depart at 4:00 PM from Radio City Music Hall. Arrive back at Park and Ride at 5:30 PM. Please call 973-383-3521 ext. 228 or email recreation@newtontownhall.com to reserve your seats. Tickets are \$110.00/pp and located in the orchestra section. First come, first serve basis.

Senior Exercise Program: Join us for Zumba Gold. Get active with great people at the dance party workout that moves at your pace. Every Tuesday morning from 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM and Friday morning from 10:30 AM to 11:15 AM at Newton Firehouse #1, 22 Mill St. Only \$5 per class. No pre-registration necessary. Call 973-383-3521 x228 with questions.

Senior Dinner: Date to be determined at Newton High School. Join us for a delicious turkey dinner, and a short holiday concert by the Newton High School Honor Choir.

Holiday House Decoration Contest: Houses must be decorated by Friday December 8, 2017, judging will be done by local seniors after the Newton Tree Lighting. Recognition and awards will be presented at a follow-up Town Council meeting.

Holiday Tree Lighting: Monday December 11, 2017 at 6:00 PM. Join us for a sing-along with the Newton Public Schools children’s choir at Town Hall before Santa arrives.

Prime Time Seniors: a social group for the residents of the Town, ages 55 and up that meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. Meetings are held at the Newton #1 Firehouse, 22 Mill Street. Refreshments are served at 12:30 PM, meeting promptly begins at 1:00 PM. For information call Pat Powers at 201-410-8406.

For the latest information on Recreation Happenings, like and follow us on Facebook: NEWTON RECREATION, on Twitter: @NewtonRecNJ, or via the Town website: www.newtontownhall.com. To reach the Recreation office, call 973-383-3521 ext. 228 or email us at recreation@newtontownhall.com.



ZONING CORNER

The Town of Newton Zoning Officer, Katherine Citterbart, would like you to remember:

A Zoning Permit is required before using or allowing the use of any structure, building, or land and before changing the use of any building property or allowing a change of use of any building or property, or part thereof.

Did you know??



SURVEY SAYS...a property survey must be submitted along with most Zoning Permit Applications.

Did someone say **FREE?!?! Effective, September 20, 2017 most ZONING PERMIT FEES were ELIMINATED.**



That's all she wrote...for questions, contact the Zoning Officer at 973-383-3521 ext. 227 or kcitterbart@newtownhall.com.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

As we enter the fall and winter months, please remember the following:

- ◆ Please make sure all trash and rubbish is stored in leak-proof containers with secured lids. At no time should trash be spilling out of or stored outside of the trash container.
- ◆ Please remember to clear snow from your sidewalks within 12 hours of daylight after the same shall fall or be formed. If you plan to be away, please make certain arrangements are in place for snow removal to avoid a violation.

If you have any questions, please contact the Code Enforcement Director, Bernie Hattersly at 973-383-3521 x 256.

FINANCE NEWS

Year End Penalty for Delinquent Taxes

Pursuant to R.S. 54:4-67 the Town of Newton imposes a 6% year-end penalty on all accounts in which the delinquencies exceed \$10,000. At the end of the year the 6% penalty is added to the total delinquency and carried forward into the next year. Interest is then charged according to State Statute.

Reminders

The 4th quarter property taxes are due November 1, 2017. The 2017 4th quarter payment must be made by November 13, 2017 at 4:30 PM. Payments received after this date will be considered delinquent and interest will be charged back to November 1st in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-67.

FROM THE POLICE DESK...

Community Policing is a public safety philosophy based on partnership and cooperation between law enforcement and the communities that they are sworn to protect and serve. It's for this reason that members of the Newton Police Department are committed to engaging those we serve and sharing information about our activity. This knowledge and information is empowering. It is a force multiplier that increases our public safety effectiveness and continually builds public trust.

The Police Department shares information through our website www.NewtonPolice.org. Visit our website to find links for our crime maps, where you can find police activity updated everyday to a map. You can sign up for alerts when incidents occur near your home or business. On our website, you can also find a link to submit tips anonymously. The Text-A-Tip service has proven to be a valuable resource for both residents and the police department alike



NEWTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
39 Trinity Street Newton, NJ 07860 (973) 383-2525
www.NewtonPolice.org

TEXT-A-TIP

*See Something?
Do Something.*

TEXT **274637** KEYWORD **NEWTON**




CrimeReports™

FREE INFORMATION
Find Out What's Happening In Your Neighborhood
PROTECT—PREVENT
*Newton Police Activity Published to Crime Map and
Updated Daily—Sign up for Free Alerts*
Visit: www.NewtonPolice.org

The opioid epidemic is plaguing America and our community is not immune to its effects. The number of overdose deaths have surpassed accidental deaths from motor vehicle crashes and firearms combined. In Sussex County, we're leading the way to not only remain steadfast in strict enforcement, but we're also working hard to help people into recovery from drug addiction. By doing so, we can substantially improve quality of life for individuals, families, businesses and our community. By effectively reducing the number of people with a substance use disorder, the criminal activity commonly associated with drug use will also be reduced. The **C.L.E.A.R.** program, **Community Law Enforcement Addiction Recovery** program aims to form a collaborative network of professionals in our community who will facilitate medical intervention, improved access to treatment and recovery support for those struggling with drug addiction who seek assistance, without fear of arrest or prosecution. Our first year with C.L.E.A.R. has shown many successful outcomes and we're excited to be expanding the program to 6 other Police Departments in Sussex County this fall. Visit www.clearprogram.org for more information, find help or learn how to help this important initiative.



C.L.E.A.R.

COMMUNITY LAW ENFORCEMENT ADDICTION RECOVERY

www.newtontownhall.com

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings: you name it and it ends up in our water.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we're all doing something about it.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cleanup costs.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.

Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides

- ◆ Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer.
- ◆ Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- ◆ Look into alternatives for pesticides.
- ◆ Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- ◆ If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply it.

Properly use and dispose of hazardous products

Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints.

- ◆ Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local bodies of water and the water is not treated.
- ◆ If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance.

- ◆ Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.

Keep pollution out of storm drains

- ◆ Recycle used motor oil.
- ◆ Municipalities and many other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local bodies of water.
- ◆ Do not let sewage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.
- ◆ Clean and plentiful water is important to our families, our environment, our economy and our quality of life. Did you know that animal waste from pets can pollute our waters? When left on the ground, pet waste is washed by rain and melting snow and ice into storm drains that carry it to our rivers, lakes, bays, the ocean and drinking water. Animal waste contains a high concentration of nutrients as well as bacteria and disease-causing microorganisms that can cause problems.

Clean up after your pet

- ◆ Follow the Town of Newton pet-waste rules.
- ◆ Pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or people's property.
- ◆ Use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes.
- ◆ Dispose of the unwrapped pet waste in a toilet.
- ◆ Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

Don't litter

- ◆ Place litter in trash receptacles.
- ◆ Recycle. Recycle. Recycle.

Dispose of yard waste properly

- ◆ Participate in community cleanups.
- ◆ Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.
- ◆ Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost.
- ◆ Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.

Town of Newton
39 Trinity Street
Newton, NJ 07860

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PERMIT NO. 194
SPARTA, NJ 07871

THE 2017—2018
NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Wayne F. Levante, Mayor
wlevante@newtontownhall.com



E. Kevin Elvidge, Deputy Mayor
kelvidge@newtontownhall.com

Helen R. Le Frois Councilwoman
Daniel G. Flynn, Councilman
Sandra Lee Diglio, Councilwoman

Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Manager
Lorraine A. Read, Municipal Clerk

Inside This Issue

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Dates of Interest..... | 2 |
| Recent Ordinances | 2 |
| Staff Directory | 2 |
| | |
| Fall Leaf & Brush Pickup | 3 |
| Christmas Tree Pickup..... | 3 |
| Operation Santa..... | 3 |
| Clerk's Office Reminders..... | 3 |
| | |
| Recreation Happenings | 4 |
| | |
| Zoning Corner..... | 5 |
| Property Maintenance | 5 |
| Finance News | 5 |
| | |
| From the Police Desk..... | 6 |
| | |
| Stormwater Management..... | 7 |
| | |
| Town Council..... | 8 |