

January 10, 2022

The regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Newton was held in person and via Zoom on the above date at 7:12 pm. Present were Mr. Couce, Mrs. Diglio, Mrs. Teets, Mayor Schlaffer, Teresa A. Oswin, Municipal Clerk, and Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Town Manager. Eric Bernstein, Esq., Town Attorney and Monica B. Miebach, CFO, were also present. Mr. Dickson was excused.

Mayor Schlaffer then made the following declaration "in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this Regular meeting was given to the two newspapers of record and posted on the official bulletin board on January 3, 2022".

Mayor Schlaffer led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and the Clerk called the roll.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mrs. Diglio, seconded by Mr. Couce and unanimously carried, the minutes for the December 13, 2021 Regular and Special meetings were approved.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

At this time, Mayor Schlaffer read the following statement:

"At this point in the meeting, the Town Council welcomes comments from any member of the public on any topic. To help facilitate an orderly meeting and to permit the opportunity for anyone who wishes to be heard, speakers are asked to take one turn at the microphone and please limit their comments to 3 minutes. The Municipal Clerk will keep time. If reading from a prepared statement, please provide a copy and email a copy to the Clerk's Office after making your comments so it may be properly reflected in the minutes. Council may choose to comment after the entire public portion has concluded. Please state your name and address for the record."

Mayor Schlaffer opened the meeting to the public, offering participants on Zoom to use the "raise hand" feature.

Ludmilla Mecaj, 9 Madison Street, congratulated the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on their appointments. She was unable to attend the meeting last week. She asked if in the future if they have a meeting outside, could it be via Zoom also so everyone can attend?

Peg Baldini, 10 Barry Lane, questioned the resolution on the agenda to appoint a Historian. Is this a paid position? She also questioned the Ordinance to include the position of Animal Control Officer. She thought we were contracting with another municipality for this.

There was no one else on Zoom wishing to be heard.

Mayor Schlaffer opened the meeting to the public.

There being no one from the public to be heard, Mayor Schlaffer closed the meeting to the public.

COUNCIL & MANAGER REPORTS

Mayor Schlaffer – stated, the County reports there are an additional 1,240 COVID cases as of today, with 2 new deaths. Of the 29,991 cases to date, 20,996 are considered recovered.

He is looking forward to a serving as Mayor. He will not have office hours, instead he will be taking meetings on the trail. In the case of snow on the trial, he will meet on Spring Street.

Deputy Mayor Teets – read the following statement *“I would like to just mention again my appreciation and thanks to Mr. Russo, Ms. Oswin, Ms. Alcock, and all the Town staff, including DPW, who helped to plan the reorg meeting this past Thursday as well as setting up the area and taking it down immediately following the meeting. I would also like to thank Matt Dickson once again for his leadership and guidance this past year and I know he will continue to work just as hard this year because we all have that work ethic, we all want to keep the momentum going and he knows I will continue to reach out to him or bother him if I need any help or guidance. I wish Jason Schlaffer lots of luck and success this year and I’m looking forward to serving as your Deputy and working with all the Council, the Town Manager and Town Staff this year.*

I want to recognize the DPW, the Police Department and the OEM for assisting the Newton Medical Center with the COVID drive-thru testing site last week. This is just another example of how our Town offices/divisions come together to support and coordinate events. I know Chief VanNieuwland was working alongside the hospital and the coordination was quickly pulled together. Good Job!

This past Friday, on January 7, 2022 at 13:52 the Newton Fire Department along with the Andover Fire Department, Newton First Aid Squad, and the Newton Police Department were dispatched to Spring St. for a structure fire with possible entrapment. While searching the first floor, Past Andover Twps. Fire Chief Eric Danielson, who is also the current Andover Police Chief, found a subject in the bedroom of the apartment where the fire originated. Past Chief Danielson was able to drag the victim to the front hallway and turned over her care to other awaiting first responders. Firefighter Danielson's efforts clearly contributed to saving this person's life along with the EMTs and paramedics on scene. In addition, thanks to all of our first responders, mutual aid companies and the police department, including the 9-1-1 Operators for their quick action and response because this could have been a completely different ending and could have caused significant damage to more than just that apartment building on Spring Street. Thankfully, there were no further injuries to our first responders.”

Councilman Couce – concurs with Deputy Mayor Teets statement.

Councilwoman Diglio – Nothing to report at this time.

Town Manager Russo – Nothing to repost at this time.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

ORDINANCES

Mayor Schlaffer read aloud the following Ordinance relative to introduction.

ORDINANCE 2022-1

**AN ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
IN THE TOWN SALARY ORDINANCE**

The aforementioned **ORDINANCE** was offered by Deputy Mayor Teets, who moved its introduction, seconded by Mrs. Diglio and roll call resulted as follows:

Mr. Couce	Yes	Mr. Dickson	Excused
Mrs. Diglio	Yes	Mrs. Teets	Yes
	Mayor Schlaffer	Yes	

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the above Ordinance be introduced for the first reading, with hearing on the same to be held on Monday, January 24, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Schlaffer 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.”*

Mr. Russo started by responding to Ms. Baldini's questions. He is in favor of Resolution #57-2022 for the Town Historian. He spoke to Mr. McCabe on the matter, and he felt his request for \$1,500 was reasonable. The position of Animal Control Officer is needed because our Share Services agreement expired.

Mr. Russo then reviewed the consent agenda items.

RESOLUTION# 48-2022*

“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF PUMPS AT THE SPARTA AVENUE PUMP STATION”

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton became aware one (1) of the three (3) mandatory pumps has failed at the Sparta Avenue Pump Station; and

WHEREAS, the Town Sewer Operator has determined this condition is an emergency and poses a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the public; and

WHEREAS, this emergency occurred on December 20, 2021; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6, an emergency quote from Rapid Pump and Meter Company has provided for an emergency for replacement, installation of the pump, and estimated labor and parts to replace guide rails and top brackets at a minimum (due to corrosion) as well as floats, in the amount of \$30,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Town Manager finds that this qualifies as an emergency procurement in accordance with the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A.40A:11-6); and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer certifies funding is available in the amount of \$30,000.00 from:

Line item: Capital Outlay #6089293A

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton, in the County of Sussex and State of New Jersey, based upon these circumstances, it hereby declares an emergency and approves the need for the emergency purchase of a sewer pump and installation from Rapid Pump and Meter Service Co., Inc. in the amount of \$30,000.00.

RESOLUTION #49-2022*

“AUTHORIZE CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO ELM STREET, HAMPTON STREET, & UPPER UNION PLACE AND ACCEPT AS FINAL AND COMPLETE”

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Newton awarded contracts for the Proposed Improvements to Elm Street, Hampton Street, & Upper Union Place through the Morris County Co-op by the adoption of Resolution #185-2021 on September 15, 2021:

To Schifano Construction through the Morris County Co-op	\$67,877.25
To Denville Line Painting through the Morris County Co-op	\$2,017.02
To Campbell Foundry Co. through the Morris County Co-op	<u>\$1,312.00</u>

Total Cost through Morris County Co-Op for the Project **\$71,206.27**

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton duly advertised and received bids in a public manner on August 4, 2021 for the Construction of ADA Ramps on Elm Street, Hampton Street, and Upper Union Place and awarded the contract to ADS Contracts, LLC by the adoption of Resolution #168-2021 on August 9, 2021 for a contract amount of \$26,804.12; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, Inc., recommends in his memo dated December 20, 2021, approving Change Order No. 1, for the above referenced Project for Denville Line Painting for an increase in the amount of \$999.62 for a new contract total of \$3,016.64; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council approved a Change Order for Schifano Construction for a final contact cost of \$72,171.81 for the paving portion by the adoption of Resolution #249-2021 on December 13, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council approved Change Order No. 1 for ADS Contracts, LLC for a final contract cost of \$18,644.12 for the ADA Ramps portion by the adoption of Resolution #251-2021 on December 13, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Harold E. Pellow & Associates, Inc., recommends the project be accepted as final and complete in a memo dated December 15, 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that it hereby accepts the Proposed Improvements to Elm Street, Hampton Street, and Upper Union Place Project and the construction of ADA ramps as final and complete based on the recommendation of Harold E. Pellow and Associates and the final paperwork be processed.

RESOLUTION #50-2022*

“AUTHORIZE THE AWARD OF A REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONTRACT FOR DEMPSEY UNIFORM”

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton requires the services of uniform supply through a contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4; and

WHEREAS, Sean Canning, Q.P.A., of the Canning Group, LLC, Newton's Qualified Purchasing Agent, has determined and certified in writing the value of the services will exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, Dempsey Uniform, 1200 Mid Valley Dr., Jessup, PA 18434, in the aggregate is expected exceed the pay to play threshold of \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, Dempsey Uniform has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification and a Political Contribution Disclosure form which certifies Dempsey Uniform, has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Town of Newton in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Dempsey Uniform, from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that subject to the Governing Body appropriating sufficient funds in the 2022 budget, funds NOT TO EXCEED \$17,500.00 will be encumbered as follows:

Road – Contractual #1080217 \$12,250.00

Water Sewer – Uniforms #6051271 \$5,250.00

“The maximum dollar value is based on a reasonable estimate of the goods or services required over the contract term, and the Town of Newton is not obligated to spend that amount.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Newton authorizes the Town Manager to enter into a contract with Dempsey Uniform, not to exceed \$17,50.00 for the 2022 calendar year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution.

RESOLUTION #51-2022*

“REAPPOINTMENT OF THERESA SCHLOSSER AS CERTIFIED TAX COLLECTOR FOR THE TOWN OF NEWTON”

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton requires the services of a Tax Collector to perform certain duties including but not limited to those set forth in N.J.S.A. 40:69A-149.15; and

WHEREAS, by adoption of Resolution 108-2017 and in accordance with State statutes, Theresa Schlosser was appointed as Certified Tax Collector for the Town of Newton, effective July 1, 2017, for a term of four years beginning January 1, 2018 continuing through December 31, 2021 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-142; and

WHEREAS, Theresa Schlosser has performed in an exceptional manner in her capacity as Tax Collector; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:9-145.8, any person who is reappointed as Tax Collector subsequent to receiving a Tax Collector Certificate shall have acquired tenure, and shall hold his or her office during good behavior, efficiency, and compliance with continuing education requirements; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Newton Town Council concur that Theresa Schlosser is qualified and has determined to reappoint Ms. Schlosser in accordance with all applicable ordinances and statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton, that Theresa Schlosser be reappointed as Certified Tax Collector for the Town of Newton effective January 1, 2022.

RESOLUTION #52-2022*

“AUTHORIZE AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR TOPOLOGY NJ, AS CONFLICT TOWN PLANNER FOR THE TOWN OF NEWTON”

WHEREAS, there exists a need for a conflict professional planner to be appointed to represent the Town of Newton and its various entities through a professional services agreement under N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5; and

WHEREAS, Phil Abramson, of Topology NJ, LLC has submitted a proposal to the Town of Newton, dated November 20, 2021, outlining his services to be provided and a rate schedule, which the Town Council has deemed to be applicable for said professionals services, which is attached to and made a part of this Resolution as if set forth in its entirety; and

WHEREAS, Topology NJ, LLC in the aggregate of all of its services shall exceed pay to play threshold of \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Town's Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that funds are available in the applicable budgets, accounts, and escrows; and

WHEREAS, Topology NJ, LLC has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification and a Political Contribution Disclosure Form, which certifies that Topology NJ, LLC has not made any reportable contributions to a political candidate or committee in the Town of Newton in the previous one (1) year period and that the contract will prohibit them from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Manager and the Town Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a duplicate of this Resolution and to execute an agreement between the Town of Newton and Topology NJ, LLC providing for the retention of Topology NJ, LLC as Conflict Town Planner for the Town and/or other applicable entities.

Phil Abramson, Principal

Thomas S. Russo, Jr., MPA, CPM
Town Manager

RESOLUTION #53-2022*

“APPOINTMENT OF JARROD C. COFRANCESCO, ESQ., AS THE TOWN OF NEWTON'S ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022”

WHEREAS, Jonathan E. McMeen, Esq., currently serving as the Town of Newton's Municipal Prosecutor, has indicated an Alternate Municipal Prosecutor may be needed occasionally by the Town of Newton during calendar year 2022; and

WHEREAS, it is agreed any municipal prosecutor appointed by a municipality in the County can provide prosecutor services to the Town of Newton in the event that an alternate is needed to prosecute in the an absence of Jonathan E. McMeen, Esq. or in the case of an attorney conflict; and

WHEREAS, Jarrod C. Cofrancesco, Esq., has expressed an interest in serving as Newton's Alternate Municipal Prosecutor; and

WHEREAS, compensation of said services and supervision will be the sole responsibility of Jonathan E. McMeen, Esq. when an alternate prosecutor is utilized in his absence; and

WHEREAS, legal services is a professional service as defined by the Local Public Contracts Law and is, therefore, exempt from public bidding requirements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i);

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton, that we hereby appoint Jarrod C. Cofrancesco, Esq., as the Town of Newton's Alternate Municipal Prosecutor for the calendar year 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Jarrod C. Cofrancesco, Esq., Jonathan E. McMeen, Esq., Frances Koch, Sussex County Prosecutor, and the Town of Newton Municipal Judge, the Hon. James P. Sloan.

RESOLUTION #54-2022*

“AUTHORIZE REMITTANCE (CANCELLATION) OF 2021 TAXES; BLOCK 4.02, LOT 20”

WHEREAS, the Municipal Tax Assessor has indicated during the remapping of the Town, Block 4.02, Lot 20, also known as High Street Rear and assessed to “Unknown Owner” represents a “void” in the tax map; and

WHEREAS, this property currently has unpaid taxes for the year 2021 for the total amount of \$44.92; and

WHEREAS, Tax Collector has determined the taxes in the amount of \$44.92 for the tax year 2021 are uncollectible and are unable to be sold in the annual tax sale and the amount must be remitted (cancelled);

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that this Governing Body acknowledges the taxes for the year 2021 are uncollectible and must be remitted (cancelled); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector be authorized to remit (cancel) taxes for the year 2021 for Block 4.02, Lot 20, in the total amount of \$44.92.

RESOLUTION #55-2022*

“REFUND OF REDEMPTION MONIES TO OUTSIDE LIEN HOLDER FOR BLOCK 8.08, LOT 21, ALSO KNOWN AS 120 SPRING STREET”

WHEREAS, at the Municipal Tax Sale held on October 13, 2021 a lien was sold on Block 8.08, Lot 21, also known as 120 Spring Street, for 2020 delinquent taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien, known as Tax Sale Certificate #2021-003 was sold to Evolve Bank & Trust for a 0% redemption fee and a premium of \$51,800.00; and

WHEREAS, Lokman Bajrami/Lucky Realty, the owner, has effected the redemption of Certificate #2021-003 in the amount of \$14,129.71;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that this Governing Body acknowledges Evolve Bank & Trust is entitled to a redemption in the amount of \$14,129.71 as well as the return of the premium in the amount of \$51,800.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Newton confirms and acknowledges the Tax Collector shall issue a check, in the amount of \$14,129.71 for the redemption and a check in the amount of \$51,800.00 for the return of the premium for Certificate #2021-003 to Evolve Bank & Trust, 6070 Poplar Avenue, Suite 200, Memphis, TN 38119.

RESOLUTION #56-2022*

“REFUND OF REDEMPTION MONIES TO OUTSIDE LIEN HOLDER FOR BLOCK 11.01, LOT 14, ALSO KNOWN AS 216 WOODSIDE AVENUE”

WHEREAS, at the Municipal Tax Sale held on October 7, 2020 a lien was sold on Block 11.01, Lot 14, also known as 216 Woodside Avenue, for 2019 delinquent taxes; and

WHEREAS, this lien, known as Tax Sale Certificate #2020-004 was sold to Pro Cap 8/Pro Capital Mgt II, LLC for a 0% redemption fee and a premium of \$40,200.00; and

WHEREAS, the law firm of Stone Mandia, LLC has effected the redemption of Certificate #2020-004 in the amount of \$60,045.42;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that this Governing Body acknowledges Pro Cap 8/Pro Capital Mgt II, LLC is entitled to a redemption in the amount of \$60,045.42 as well as the return of the premium in the amount of \$40,200.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Newton confirms and acknowledges the Tax Collector shall issue a check, in the amount of \$60,045.42 for the redemption and a check in the amount of \$40,200.00 for the return of the premium for Certificate #2020-004 to Pro Cap 8/Pro Capital Mgt II, LLC, 50 South 16th Street, Suite 2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

RESOLUTION #57-2022*

“RESOLUTION CREATING THE POSITION OF NEWTON TOWN HISTORIAN, AS WELL AS THE POWERS, DUTIES, AND COMPENSATION FOR SAME”

(Pulled from Consent Agenda for discussion)

RESOLUTION #58-2022*

“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 2021 and 2022 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.

List of Bills - CLEARING/CLAIMS

Check#	Vendor	Check Total
5146	3 B COMMUNICATION SERVICES	192.00
5147	ABCODE SECURITY INC.	315.00
5148	AFLAC	3,906.36
5149	AG CHOICE, LLC.	128.00
5150	ALBANIAN INTERPRETER	127.33
5151	AMERICAN FIDELITY ASSURANCE	1,272.32
5152	AMERICAN FIDELITY ASSURANCE COMPANY	720.00
5153	ARCHIVESOCIAL INC.	2,988.00
5154	ATLANTIC TACTICAL INC.	41.76
5155	B & R UNIFORM, INC.	1,026.80
5156	BOONTON TIRE SUPPLY INC.	898.64
5157	C W A LOCAL 1032	308.94
5158	CAMPBELL FOUNDRY CO. INC.	1,312.00
5159	CENTURYLINK COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	285.34
5160	CENTURYLINK COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	41.90
5161	CENTURYLINK COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	3,889.77
5162	CURRENT ACCOUNT	1,853.47
5163	D & E SERVICE CENTER, INC.	2,163.04
5164	ELIZABETHTOWN GAS	3,416.50
5165	ERIC M. BERNSTEIN & ASSOCIATES, LLC.	78.00
5166	GALLS, LLC	102.45
5167	Greg Lefrois	199.34
5168	HAYDEE BALLESTER	140.00
5169	HAYEK'S MARKET INC.	298.50
5170	HOLZHAUER & HOLENSTEIN, LLC	6,625.00
5171	HOME DEPOT, INC.	1,461.48
5172	J. CALDWELL & ASSOCIATES, LLC.	640.00
5173	JASMINE NAVARRO RUSSEL	3,659.30
5174	JCP&L	13,660.84
5175	JMC ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC.	1,957.50
5176	JOHN EBERT	300.00
5177	KIEFFER ELECTRIC, INC.	1,274.56

5178	KKPR MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS,	800.00
5179	LAWYERS DIARY & MANUAL	128.25
5180	LIVE TO BE WELL LLC	400.00
5181	MATT DICKSON	191.20
5182	MINISINK PRESS INC	558.00
5183	NEWTON AUTO BODY & RESTORATION,LLC	733.60
5184	NEWTON PATROLMANS ASSOCIATION	1,500.00
5185	NEWTON SUPERIOR OFFICERS	840.00
5186	NEWTON TROPHY	90.00
5187	NJMEBF	182,273.00
5188	OSWIN TERESA ANN	15.00
5189	PELLOW, HAROLD & ASSO, INC.	6,295.60
5190	PENTELEDATA	319.90
5191	Peter Bond	150.00
5192	PLANET NETWORKS INC.	240.00
5193	QUALITY FACILITY SOLUTIONS CORP	1,163.89
5194	QUILL CORPORATION	233.38
5195	RACHLES/MICHELE'S OIL COMPANY, INC.	4,327.83
5196	RAPID PUMP	13,400.00
5197	REISINGER OXYGEN SERVICE, INC.	68.96
5198	Reliance Standard Life Insurance Co	406.63
5199	SCMUA	631.36
5200	SF MOBILE-VISION, INC.	90.00
5201	SHOP RITE, INC.	73.78
5202	SKYLAND PROMTIONS	650.00
5203	SPECTROTEL	601.97
5204	STAPLES	1,297.86
5205	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN, INC.	14.92
5206	STATE OF NEW JERSEY - PWT	423.59
5207	STATE TREASURER	50.00
5208	STATE TREASURER	35.00
5209	SUBURBAN PROPANE, LP.	1,272.39
5210	SUSSEX & WARREN TAX COLL	40.00
5211	SUSSEX COUNTY P & H, INC.	625.32
5212	SYNCHRONY BANK	1,420.48
5213	SYNCHRONY BANK	183.96
5214	TAP INTO, LLC	2,100.00
5215	TAYLOR OIL CO., INC.	2,757.40
5216	TEXAS LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	70.90
5217	THE EQUITABLE	14,195.00
5218	TIRE KING, INC.	1,376.00
5219	TRANS WORLD ASSURANCE CO.	800.00
5220	UGI ENERGY SERVICES LLC	3,179.93
5221	UNUM LIFE/DISABILITY INSUR	857.00
5222	UPSEU LOCAL 424J	1,302.00
5223	VERBAL JUDO INSTITUTE INC	100.00
5224	VERIZON WIRELESS, INC.	1,350.26
5225	VISION SERVICE PLAN	1,200.88
5226	VOGEL,CHAIT,COLLINS,SCHNEIDER, PC,	135.00
5227	WALMART	180.02
5228	WEIS MARKETS, INC.	37.93
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TOTAL	306,472.33

Mayor Schlaffer asked if any member of the Council would like to pull a Resolution for discussion.

Mr. Couce asked for Resolution #57-2022 be pulled for discussion.

A motion was made by Mr. Couce to approve the **COMBINED ACTION RESOLUTIONS**, excluding Resolution #57-2022, it was seconded by Deputy Mayor Teets and roll call resulted as follows:

Mr. Couce	Yes	Mr. Dickson	Excused
Mrs. Diglio	Yes	Mrs. Teets	Yes
	Mayor Schlaffer	Yes	

RESOLUTION #57-2022

“RESOLUTION CREATING THE POSITION OF NEWTON TOWN HISTORIAN, AS WELL AS THE POWERS, DUTIES, AND COMPENSATION FOR SAME”

WHEREAS, the Town Manager believes it is in the best interest of the Town of Newton for the Mayor and Town Council to create the position of Town Historian on an annual basis as to said position; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council concur with the Town Manager's recommendations and believe the creation of the position of Town Historian makes sense for the Town;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Newton, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that the position of Newton Town Historian is hereby created. Said appointment shall be made by the Town Manager and shall cover the period of January 1 through December 31 of a calendar year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Newton shall annually appropriate One Thousand Five Hundred (\$1,500.00) Dollars annually to reimburse the Town Historian for expenses incurred in the performance of his/her duties and responsibilities as set forth in N.J.S.A. 40: 10A-4 et. seq. and as per this Resolution. The Town Historian shall serve at the pleasure of the Town Manager; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Historian shall have the following powers and responsibilities, pursuant to applicable law. They are as follows:

- (1) Carry out an historical program, including but not limited to, collecting, preserving, and working available materials related to the history of the Town of Newton.
- (2) Store such materials in such a manner as to insure their prosecution and notify the New Jersey State Archivist, the New Jersey Historical Commission, the Sussex County Historian (if applicable), and the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Newton of any materials which should be acquired for preservation.
- (3) Shall make an annual report to the Mayor and Town Council and Town Manager stating all the work that he/she performed and accomplished during that calendar year by no later than December 10th of each calendar year. The Town Historian shall also transmit a copy of said report to the New Jersey Historical Commission. The New Jersey Historical Commission may advise the Town Historian of general guidelines along which their historical program may be implemented.
- (4) Research and/or cause to have published a Town history and may recommend appropriate historical materials for publication.
- (5) May assist a landmark commission, if one should exist, as well as advise the Mayor and Town Council and Town Manager concerning the acquisition, administration, uses and/or deposition of any landmark or historic site, including such places in the Town included on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places. Such advice may also be furnished, with knowledge to the Mayor and Town Council and Town Manager, to the Historic Sites Section of the New Jersey State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

- (6) The Town Historian shall assist, in conjunction with the Town Manager and Mayor and Town Council, in projects of commemoration, including the erecting of monuments, historic markers, and guide signs.
- (7) Once the Town Historian vacates his/her position, the Town Historian shall turn over all materials, records, and reports into the possession of his/her successor once appointed; or, to the Town Clerk/Town Manager until a successor shall be appointed, whichever comes first.

Mayor Schlaffer asked Mr. Couce to start the discussion.

Mr. Couce stated he is fully in support of the position but questioned if it would be worthwhile to float the idea of it being a volunteer position.

Mr. Russo stated he made the decision to make is a paid position, he thought Mr. McCabe's request was reasonable. His knowledge will be beneficial to our Planner and Engineer in applying for grants and the money has been budgeted.

Mayor Schlaffer stated the cost breaks down to approximately \$30 a week, which is very reasonable. The Town has a lot of rich history, and an Historian is needed.

Mr. Couce asked if this position would require serving on the Historic Preservation Advisory Commission. Mr. Russo stated he will discuss it with Mr. McCabe.

A brief discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Mrs. Diglio to approve **RESOLUTION #57-2022** seconded by Deputy Mayor Teets and roll call resulted as follows:

Mr. Couce	Yes	Mr. Dickson	Excused
Mrs. Diglio	Yes	Mrs. Teets	Yes
	Mayor Schlaffer	Yes	

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Schlaffer opened the meeting to the public.

Via Zoom: Dr. Mecaj, 9 Madison Street, asked if we could explore the idea of contracting with Sparta Township for Animal Control Services.

There was no one else in the audience wishing to be heard.

There being no one on Zoom wishing to be heard, Mayor Schlaffer closed the meeting to the public.

DISCUSSION – None.

COUNCIL & MANAGER COMMENTS

Mr. Russo responded to Dr. Mecaj stating we did an exhaustive search for Animal Control Services. This money is budgeted we are just switching to make it an employee position. He asked Mrs. Oswin to elaborate.

Mrs. Oswin stated, Wantage Animal Control notified the Town they would not be providing services in 2022. She reached out to several municipalities in the County,

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including Sparta, Fredon, and Hopatcong. Part of the issue with other Towns is their staffing limitations and pound facilities. The individual we selected for the position comes highly recommended, she lives local, and should be an asset. We are required by State Statute to provide animal control services. Sparta will be covering us for the month of January.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None.

There being no further business to be conducted, upon motion of Deputy Mayor Teets seconded by Mr. Couce and unanimously carried, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa A. Oswin, RMC
Municipal Clerk