

The regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Newton was held in person and via Zoom on the above date at 7:00pm. Present were Mrs. Diglio, Mr. Dickson, Deputy Mayor Le Frois, Mrs. Teets, Mayor Couce, Teresa A. Oswin, Municipal Clerk, and Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Town Manager. Monica Miebach, CMFO was also present. Eric M. Bernstein, Esq., Town Attorney, attended via Zoom.

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

Mayor Couce 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 5, 2024."

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Mrs. Teets, seconded by Deputy Mayor Le Frois and all those present voting yes, the minutes for the February 12, 2024 Regular Meeting were approved as presented. Mrs. Diglio abstained.

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

At this time, Mayor Couce 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 identify yourself and spell your last name."*

Mayor Couce opened the meeting to the public.

There being no one from the public to be heard in-person or on Zoom, Mayor Couce closed the meeting to the public.

### **COUNCIL & MANAGER REPORTS**

**Town Manager Russo** – no report.

**Councilmember Dickson** – thanked the staff for putting together the Budget.

**Councilmember Diglio** – also thanked the staff and the people attending the Budget meeting. She has been working on the St. Patrick's Day parade which will be held on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. She is also working on the Memorial Day Parade which will start at 10:00am on May 27<sup>th</sup>. A memorial service will immediately follow at Memory Park. The Prime-Time Seniors are now meeting at the Newton First Aid Squad building on Sussex Street, she encourages all Seniors to join.

**Councilmember Teets** – thanked Monica for putting together this Budget. She knows first hand how much work it takes to create a budget. She wished Helen a very Happy Birthday! She attended a recent Board of Education meeting and thanked our staff for posting their video on our website. She wished congratulations and good luck to the Newton wrestling team as they will be competing in Atlantic City. She gave a shout-out

to Jay Phlegar of Boonton Tire, he recently retired. He and his wife Lynn have always been big supporters of Newton and she wishes them all the best in their retirement. Lastly, she also has been working on the St. Patrick's Day Parade and is happy to report the Mummers are coming.

**Deputy Mayor Le Frois** – she and Mayor Couce attended the Planning Board meeting, normal business occurred. She attended the Lexi Faye Heart of Gold fundraiser at Applebee's on the 25<sup>th</sup>. It was a great event and very well attended. They are raising money for a new scoreboard at the high school. United Way is offering free tax preparation for low to moderate income families. There is a Senior Freeze program available, information is on our website. The Hometown Heroes banner applications are due March 15<sup>th</sup>. She is looking forward to seeing them hung around Town. She thanked Tom, Monica, and the staff for preparing the Budget. She reminded everyone that one-third of the properties in Newton are tax-exempt, but we are still able to provide so many services to our residents.

**Mayor Couce** – he performed his first wedding on Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None.

**ORDINANCES**

Mayor Couce read aloud the following Ordinance relative to adoption.

**ORDINANCE 2024-3**

**CALENDAR YEAR 2024**

**AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK**

**(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

**WHEREAS**, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two (2) succeeding years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council of the Town of Newton in the County of Sussex finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2024 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Newton Town Council hereby determines a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$405,873.20 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council hereby determines any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two (2) succeeding years;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton, in the County of Sussex, a majority of the full authorized membership of this Governing Body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2024 budget year, the final appropriations of the Town of Newton shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 1%, amounting to \$115,963.77, and that the CY 2024 municipal budget for the Town of Newton be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two (2) succeeding years; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within five (5) days of introduction; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within five (5) days after such adoption.

Mayor Couce opened the meeting to the public.

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

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

Mr. Dickson	Yes	Mrs. Diglio	Yes
Deputy Mayor Le Frois	Yes	Mrs. Teets	Yes
	Mayor Couce	Yes	

Mayor Couce read aloud the following Ordinance relative to adoption.

**ORDINANCE 2024-4**

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$800,000 FOR RENOVATIONS TO FIREHOUSE NO. 1 IN AND BY THE TOWN OF NEWTON, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$760,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION**

BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF NEWTON, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1:**

The improvement described in Section 3 of this Bond Ordinance (the "Improvement") is hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Town of Newton, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey (the "Town") as a general improvement. For the said Improvement there is hereby appropriated the amount of \$800,000, such sum includes \$40,000 from the capital improvement fund as the down payment (the "Down Payment") required by the Local Bond Law of the State of New Jersey, constituting Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes, as amended and supplemented (the "Local Bond Law").

**SECTION 2:**

In order to finance the additional cost of the Improvement not covered by application of the Down Payment, negotiable bonds of the Town are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$760,000 pursuant to the provisions of the Local Bond Law (the "Bonds"). In anticipation of the issuance of the Bonds and to temporarily finance said Improvement or purposes, negotiable bond anticipation notes of the Town are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount not exceeding \$760,000 pursuant to the provisions of the Local Bond Law (the "Bond Anticipation Notes" or "Notes").

**SECTION 3:**

(a) The Improvements authorized and the purpose for the financing of which said obligations are to be issued is for renovations to the Firehouse No. 1 building located at 22 Mill Street, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto, and as shown on and in accordance with the plans and specifications on file with the Municipal Clerk.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of Bonds or Notes to be issued for the purpose of financing a portion of the cost of the Improvement is \$760,000.

(c) The estimated cost of the Improvement is \$800,000 which amount represents the initial appropriation made by the Town.

**SECTION 4:**

All Bond Anticipation Notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the municipal finance officer of the Town (the "Chief Financial Officer"); provided that no Note shall mature later than one year from its date. The Notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer shall determine all matters in connection with Notes issued pursuant to this ordinance, and the signature of the Chief Financial Officer upon the Notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All Notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of Section 8(a) of the Local Bond Law. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the Notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the Town Council of the Town at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the Notes pursuant to this ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the Notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

**SECTION 5:**

The capital budget of the Town is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this Ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith and the resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey is on file with the Municipal Clerk and is available for public inspection.

**SECTION 6:**

The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited, and stated:

(a) The Improvement described in Section 3 of this Bond Ordinance is not a current expense and is a capital improvement or property the Town may lawfully make or acquire as general improvements, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of the Improvement, within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, taking into consideration the respective amounts of all obligations authorized for such purpose, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the Bonds authorized by this Bond Ordinance, is 15 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director, Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Town, as defined in the Local Bond Law, is increased by the authorization of the Bonds and Notes provided in this Bond Ordinance by \$760,000 and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$41,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under Section 20 of the Local Bond Law is included in the estimated cost of the Improvements, as indicated herein.

**SECTION 7:**

Any funds or grant monies received for the purpose described in Section 3 of this Ordinance shall be used for financing said Improvement by application thereof either to direct payment of the cost of said Improvement or to the payment or reduction of the authorization of the obligations of the Town authorized therefor by this Bond Ordinance. Any such funds received may, and all such funds so received which are not required for direct payment of the cost of said Improvement shall, be held and applied by the Town as funds applicable only to the payment of obligations of the Town authorized by this Bond Ordinance.

**SECTION 8:**

The full faith and credit of the Town are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the obligations authorized by this Bond Ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Town, and the Town shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable property within the Town for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

**SECTION 9:**

The Chief Financial Officer of the Town is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Town and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Town. The Chief Financial Officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Town pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Town and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Town fails to comply with its undertaking, the Town shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

**SECTION 10:**

This Bond Ordinance constitutes a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2. The Town reasonably expects to pay expenditures with respect to the Improvement prior to the date that Town incurs debt obligations under this Bond Ordinance. The Town reasonably expects to reimburse such expenditures with the proceeds of debt to be incurred by the Town under this Bond Ordinance. The maximum principal amount of debt expected to be issued for payment of the cost of the Improvement is \$760,000.

**SECTION 11:**

This Bond Ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Mayor Couce opened the meeting to the public.

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

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

Mr. Dickson	Yes	Mrs. Diglio	Yes
Deputy Mayor Le Frois	Yes	Mrs. Teets	Yes
	Mayor Couce	Yes	

Mayor Couce read aloud the following Ordinance relative to adoption.

**ORDINANCE #2024-5**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE, AND SUPPLEMENT THE LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM (LOSAP) SCHEDULE FOR MEMBERS OF THE NEWTON TOWN VOLUNTEER FIRST AID SQUAD**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council of the Town of Newton, via Town Ordinance 2013-3, and amended by Town Ordinance 2015-17, established a Length of Service Award Program ("LOSAP") for members of the Newton Town Volunteer First Aid Squad, in accordance with the "Emergency Services Volunteer Length of Service Award Program Act", N.J.S.A. 40A:14-183 to -194, to reward members of the Newton Town Volunteer First Aid Squad for their loyal, diligent, and devoted service to the residents of the Town of Newton; and

**WHEREAS**, the adopting Ordinance requires Volunteer First Aid Squad members to accumulate a certain number of points for activities, as set forth in Schedule "A", annexed to the adopted Town Ordinance 2013-3 and revised by Town Ordinance 2015-17; and

**WHEREAS**, Schedule "A" of Town Ordinance 2013-3 and revised Town Ordinance 2015-17 detailed how points could be earned in determining contributions towards members' LOSAP accounts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council has determined the formula used to award points for member participation needs to be revised in order to reflect the eligibility more accurately for contributions for Volunteer First Aid Squad members; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-14.8, minor amendments to LOSAP may be made by approval of the majority of the Governing Body, so long as minor amendments do not materially affect the elements of the LOSAP originally approved by the voters; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendments appear to be minor in nature and do not materially affect the elements of LOSAP;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Newton, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that Schedule "A", which sets forth how points are earned for LOSAP contributions for the Newton Town Volunteer First Aid Squad members is revised, in part, to now read as follows:

**LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM**

**Town of Newton  
Schedule A**

**Schedule of Points**

Each active volunteer member, as defined by squad policies, shall be credited with points for volunteer services provided to the Newton Town Volunteer First Aid Squad in accordance with the following schedule:

Town of Newton Volunteer First Aid Squad members.

A.

- 1. One hundred (100) points are required for a member to be eligible for one hundred 100% percent of the annual contribution. If a member achieves fewer than one hundred (100) points, the following table shall be used in determining the contributions:

<b>Number of Points</b>	<b>Contribution</b>
100	100%
90 through 99	75%
80 through 89	50%
70 through 79	25%
50 through 69	10%
0 through 49	0%

- 2. Points earned for ~~first~~ duty shifts.

- a. Members shall be credited one (1) point for each ~~twelve hour duty period~~ every twelve (12) hours completed, for a maximum of ~~60~~ seventy (70) points earned in a calendar year.

- b. Members shall be credited two (2) additional points for every twelve (12) hours completed between the hours of 00:00 and 23:59 on holidays observed by Town of Newton employees.

- c. Unscheduled members participating in the response to an emergency incident that lasts over two (2) hours in duration shall receive one (1) point per hour.

- d. Members who cover shifts for other members shall receive an additional two tenths (0.2) points per hour, provided the covering member already meets their hourly requirements.

- e. Unscheduled members who respond to scramble calls receive two tenths (0.2) points per call, provided the covering member already meets their hourly requirements.

- 1. For points to be awarded, the response must have a complete crew.

- 2. Points shall be awarded to all unscheduled members successfully responding to requests for additional manpower (i.e.: lifting, cardiac arrests).

- 3. For all other responses, additional points shall be awarded to the first two (2) members forming a full crew.

- 3. ~~Administrative e~~Officers.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Number of Points</b>
<u>President</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Vice President</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Secretary</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Director</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Manager</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Supervisor/Coordinator</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Advisory Board member</u>	<u>15</u>

~~Administrative Officers shall earn five points twenty five (25%) percent of the position's point value for every three (3) months served, for a maximum of 20 points for each calendar year.~~

4. ~~Miscellaneous committees: Activities~~

~~Two points will be credited for participating in activities which are deemed official by the Captain or President, such as:~~

~~Vehicle committees.~~

~~First aid informational activities.~~

~~Wakes and memorial services.~~

~~Local relief association meetings as delegate or trustee.~~

~~Local exempt association member.~~

~~Attendance as delegate to county or state association meetings.~~

~~Parades and other special events.~~

~~Attendance at outside first aid activities not previously covered.~~

~~The points earned for participation shall be earned on a pro-rata basis.~~

~~5. Miscellaneous:~~

<b>Position or Activity</b>	<b>Number of Points</b>
<u>Captain</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>First Lieutenant</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>Second Lieutenant</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Trustee Chairman</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Equipment engineer</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Mechanical engineer</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Trustee</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Chairman of committee</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>First Aid Advisor</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>EMT Initial Course</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>EMT Refresher Course</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>NJ EMS Continuing Education Course</u>	<u>1 per CEU (NJ EMTs)</u> <u>0.25 per CEU (non-NJ EMTs)</u>
<u>Internal, non-CEU Training or drills</u>	<u>One each 0.5 per hour</u>
<u>Special details events</u>	<u>One each 0.5 per hour</u>
<u>(must attend min. 50% of the event for any points to be awarded)</u>	
<u>(cannot be covering as the duty crew, unless there is also an event crew)</u>	
<u>Schooling</u>	<u>Four each class</u>
<u>Committee meetings</u>	<u>One each</u>

Squad Inter/intra-agency meetings	<del>One each</del> <u>2</u>
Standbys	<del>One each</del>
Projects/efforts not otherwise defined	<u>1 per hour, (approved by Director)</u>

All activities for efforts not reaching a full hour/full CEU shall be rounded up to the nearest hour.

5. Longevity point system.

Each member shall receive one (1) point for each year completed as a member of the Town of Newton Volunteer First Aid Squad. Members shall receive one (1) point for each previous year completed, to a maximum of up to twenty-five (25) points.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that:

(1) All ordinances or parts of ordinance which are inconsistent with the terms of this Ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistencies.

(2) This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon due passage and publication in accordance with law.

Mayor Couce opened the meeting to the public.

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

The aforementioned **ORDINANCE** was offered by Deputy Mayor Le Frois who moved its adoption, it was seconded by Mr. Dickson, and roll call resulted as follows:

Mr. Dickson	Yes	Mrs. Diglio	Abstain
Deputy Mayor Le Frois	Yes	Mrs. Teets	Yes
	Mayor Couce		Abstain

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Couce 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 then reviewed the consent agenda items.

**RESOLUTION #83-2024\***

**"To Cancel Appropriated Reserve Balance in the Federal and State Grant Fund – Municipal Alliance Grant in the Amount of \$116.73"**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Newton received a grant in the amount of \$6,037.00 for the 2021/2022 Municipal Alliance Grant and provided a match of \$1,509.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has completed the projects schedules for the 2022-2023 Municipal Alliance and made payments in the amount of \$6,960.30; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town cancelled \$468.98 of the receivable and appropriations per Resolution #70-2024 on February 12, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, there remains an unexpended balance in the grant fund of \$116.73; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to formally cancel the grant appropriated reserve balance;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by a majority of the full membership of the Town Council of the Town of Newton, that we hereby cancel the following:

**Federal & State Grant Fund**

Appropriated Reserves – Municipal Alliance Grant (2022-2023) #41-506-002 - \$116.73

**RESOLUTION #84-2024\***

**“To Apply for a New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Grant to Assist in Repairing the Newton Roller Hockey Rink”**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Newton desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for up to approximately \$100,000 to carry out a project to repair and improve the roller hockey rink;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**,

1. The Town of Newton does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and
2. The Town of Newton recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Town of Newton and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (signature)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**John-Paul Couce**  
 (type or print name)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor**  
 (title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (signature)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**Thomas S. Russo, Jr.**  
 (type or print name)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**Town Manager**  
 (title)

**RESOLUTION #85-2024\***

**“Approval of an Initial Application for Taxicab Driver’s License for Gavin Spicer”**

**WHEREAS**, the Code of the Town of Newton requires that under **§283-2, License Required**, “No person shall operate a taxicab within the Town unless both the owner and the driver of the taxicab are licensed under this article.” “All licenses issued under this chapter are deemed valid for one (1) year and requests for renewal must be submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to expiration to the Chief of Police”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Newton Police Department has completed the necessary investigation and submitted a letter advising that the initial Taxicab Driver’s license application is complete and accurate;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that it hereby approves the application for an initial Taxicab Driver's License submitted by Gavin Spicer, 81 Skytop Rd, Newton, New Jersey, which will expire on February 25, 2025 and represents D.A.D.S. Taxi & Limo.

**RESOLUTION #86-2024\***

**“Approval of a Renewal Application for Taxicab Driver's License for Glenn T. Spicer”**

**WHEREAS**, the Code of the Town of Newton requires under **§283.2, License Required**. “No person shall operate a taxicab within the Town unless both the owner and the driver of the taxicab are licensed under this chapter.” “All licenses issued under this chapter are deemed valid for one (1) year and requests for renewal must be submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to expiration to the Chief of Police”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Newton Police Department has completed the necessary investigation and submitted a letter advising the renewal Taxicab Driver's license application is complete and accurate;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that it hereby approves the application for the renewal Taxicab Driver's License submitted by Glenn T. Spicer, 81 Skytop Road, Newton, NJ 07860 and represents D.A.D.S. Taxi & Limo, which will expire on November 27, 2024.

**RESOLUTION #87-2024\***

**“Approval of a Renewal Application for Taxicab Owner's License for Doragail Spicer t/a DADS Taxi & Limo”**

**WHEREAS**, the Code of the Town of Newton requires under **§283.2, License Required**, “No person shall operate a taxicab within the Town unless both the owner and the driver of the taxicab are licensed under this chapter.” “All licenses issued under this chapter are deemed valid for one (1) year and requests for renewal must be submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration to the Chief of Police”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Police Department has completed the necessary investigation and submitted a letter advising the renewal Taxicab Owner's License application is complete and accurate; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with **§283.6, Inspection of Vehicles**, “Before a vehicle is used as a taxicab within the Town it shall be inspected...to ascertain that it is in a safe, clean, and sanitary condition and contains all safety devices required by law”;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that it hereby approves the renewal Taxicab Owner's License application submitted by Doragail Spicer, 81 Skytop Road, Newton, NJ 07860, t/a D.A.D.S. Taxi & Limo, which shall expire November 27, 2024; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the applicant must remain in compliance with all aspects of **Chapter 283**, of the Code of the Town of Newton, as well as, the provisions of N.J.R.S. 46:16.

**RESOLUTION #88-2024\***

**“Approval of a Renewal Application for Taxicab Driver’s License for Doragail Spicer”**

**WHEREAS**, the Code of the Town of Newton requires under **§283-2, License Required**. “No person shall operate a taxicab within the Town unless both the owner and the driver of the taxicab are licensed under this chapter.” “All licenses issued under this chapter are deemed valid for one (1) year and requests for renewal must be submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to expiration to the Chief of Police”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Newton Police Department has completed the necessary investigation and submitted a letter advising the renewal Taxicab Driver’s license application is complete and accurate;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that it hereby approves the application for the renewal Taxicab Driver’s License submitted by Doragail Spicer, 81 Skytop Road, Newton, NJ 07860 and represents D.A.D.S. Taxi & Limo, which will expire on November 27, 2024.

**RESOLUTION #89-2024\***

**“Approval of a Renewal Application for a Junk Dealers License for Newton Auto Exchange”**

**WHEREAS**, the Newton Code under Chapter 156 “Junkyards and Junk Dealers” requires no person shall engage in the business of a retail or wholesale junk dealer except pursuant to and within the terms of a license granted by the Council; and

**WHEREAS**, said renewal application for the Junk Dealer’s License lists the business as Newton Auto Exchange at 79 Mt. View Street, Newton, New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 156-8 requires the Health Officer, Construction Official, Fire Official, Public Works Supervisor, and Zoning Officer are authorized and directed to make periodic inspections of all licensed junkyards in the Town for the purpose of ascertaining the business is being conducted on the licensed premises in accordance with the provision of Chapter 156; and

**WHEREAS**, Newton Auto Exchange has obtained the necessary approvals as required in Section 156-8; and

**WHEREAS**, Newton Auto Exchange has provided a two hundred dollar (\$200.00) bond conditioned for the due observance of all ordinances of the Town relating to the business of retail junk dealer;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Council of the Town of Newton, hereby approves the application for a renewal Junk Dealer License submitted by Michael F. Sesera, Jr., t/a Newton Auto Exchange, 79 Mt. View Street, Newton, New Jersey, which shall expire on December 31, 2024.

**RESOLUTION #90-2024\***

**“Approval of a Renewal Application for a Junk Dealers License for George’s Salvage Company”**

**WHEREAS**, the Newton Code under Chapter 156 “Junkyards and Junk Dealers” requires no person shall engage in the business of a retail or wholesale junk dealer except pursuant to and within the terms of a license granted by the Council; and

**WHEREAS**, said renewal application for the Junk Dealer’s License lists the business as George’s Salvage Company Inc., at 10 South Park Drive, Newton, New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 156.8 requires the Health Officer, Construction Official, Fire Official, Public Works Supervisor, and Zoning Officer are authorized and directed to make periodic inspections of all licensed junkyards in the Town for the purpose of ascertaining the business is being conducted on the licensed premises in accordance with the provision of Chapter 156; and

**WHEREAS**, George's Salvage Company Inc., has been inspected and approved as required in Section 156-8; and

**WHEREAS**, George's Salvage Company has provided a two hundred dollar (\$200.00) bond conditioned for the due observance of all ordinances of the Town relating to the business of retail junk dealer;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that it hereby approves the application for a renewal Junk Dealer License submitted by George M. Miller, III, George's Salvage Company, 10 South Park Drive, Newton, New Jersey which shall expire on December 31, 2024.

**RESOLUTION #91-2024\***

**“Authorize Credits Due Water and Sewer Utility Accounts”**

**WHEREAS**, the Water and Sewer Collector has determined the following Water and Sewer Utility Accounts are due credits for the reasons stated;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the Water and Sewer Collector is hereby authorized to credit the following accounts for amounts billed incorrectly due to the reason(s) stated:

**CREDIT FOR AN ACCOUNT THAT SHOULD HAVE SENIOR DISCOUNT:**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>
16191	111 Merriam Ave.	\$16.53

**RESOLUTION #92-2024\***

**“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 2022 and 2023 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**

<b>Check No.</b>	<b>Vendor No.</b>	<b>Vendor Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
10190	2799	- AFLAC	2,551.44
10191	3897	- AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	275.81
10192	3869	- AMERICAN FIDELITY ASSURANCE	1,339.60
10193	3868	- AMERICAN FIDELITY ASSURANCE COMPANY	1,316.64
10194	4745	- ATHENIA MASON SUPPLY, LLC	2,020.90
10195	2685	- B & H INC.	1,344.32
10196	1132	- BOONTON TIRE SUPPLY INC.	73.84
10197	300	- BRIGHTSPEED	3,450.07
10198	702	- C W A LOCAL 1032	327.59
10199	4706	- CARLUCCI, MICHAEL	3,707.27
10200	4138	- CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY -GAS DIV	1,310.76
10201	4738	- D.S. MEYER ENTERPRISES LLC.	3,000.00
10202	4386	- DECOTIIS, FITZPATRICK, COLE& GIBLIN, LLP	2,460.50
10203	768	- DEMPSEY UNIFORM & SUPPLY INC	2,667.43

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10204	419	- DUKE'S ROOT SERVICE, INC.	11,109.28
10205	4436	- EDIBLE JERSEY LLC.	1,720.00
10206	106	- ELIZABETHTOWN GAS	5,507.94
10207	4774	- FABERS GARAGE LLC	3,885.25
10208	2640	- FERGUSON ENTERPRISES LLC #3326	277.00
10209	4724	- GANNETT NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY LOCALIQ	248.09
10210	4506	- GLENN C KIENZ	800.00
10211	4525	- GLOBAL HR RESEARCH	36.00
10212	2313	- GRAVITY DESIGN WORKS, INC.	1,946.05
10213	3804	- HAYDEE BALLESTER	160.00
10214	230	- HAYEK'S MARKET INC.	99.99
10215	1712	- HOLZHAUER & HOLENSTEIN, LLC	4,000.00
10216	272	- HOLZHAUER, SCOTT	78.75
10217	4620	- HQW ARCHITECTS, LLC.	3,500.00
10218	3235	- J. CALDWELL & ASSOCIATES, LLC.	17,147.50
10219	3711	- KKPR MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS,	1,417.22
10220	4227	- LAW OFFICE OF DANIEL P. AGATINO, LLC.	1,333.34
10221	1141	- MCGUIRE, INC.	108.00
10222	3651	- MORTON SALT, INC.	12,061.03
10223	1290	- MUNIDEX, INC.	4,125.00
10224	170	- NEWTON BOARD OF EDUCATION	1,132,716.67
10225	700	- NEWTON PATROLMANS ASSOCIATION	1,800.00
10226	3979	- NEWTON PIZZA	117.00
10227	1745	- NEWTON SUPERIOR OFFICERS	840.00
10228	2851	- NJ HOMICIDE INVESTIGATOR'S ASSOC.	675.00
10229	2835	- NJMEBF	222,934.00
10230	4259	- NORTHERN NJ CHAPTER OF NIGP	100.00
10231	3982	- NRAAO	40.00
10232	1204	- OFFICE OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES	140.00
10233	4711	- PAVING MATERIALS & CONTRACTING LLC	119,544.85
10234	2788	- PENTELEDATA	319.90
10235	4126	- PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING INC.	13,765.00
10236	39	- QUILL CORPORATION	67.98
10237	401	- REGISTRAR'S ASSO OF NEW JERSEY	25.00
10238	4425	- Reliance Standard Life Insurance Co	971.84
10239	1872	- RR DONNELLEY	319.50
10240	61	- S K OFFICE SUPPLY INC.	190.00
10241	3660	- SCHENCK, PRICE, SMITH, & KING, LLP	1,125.08
10242	4644	- SIEGEL, STEVEN M.	2,875.01
10243	1125	- SIRCHIE FINGERPRINT LABS, LLC.	274.99
10244	4761	- SMARSH INC.	7.08
10245	3785	- SPACE FARMS	29.00
10246	2257	- STAPLES	384.49
10247	4144	- SUBURBAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.	9,879.50
10248	1215	- SUSSEX & WARREN TAX COLL	70.00
10249	556	- SUSSEX COUNTY ASSESSORS ASSOC.	100.00
10250	1453	- SUSSEX COUNTY LOCK & SAFE,	1,100.00
10251	1218	- TCTANJ	100.00
10252	4278	- TEXAS LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	176.92
10253	3851	- THE CANNING GROUP, LLC.	708.33
10254	676	- THE EQUITABLE	24,640.00
10255	2675	- TIRE KING, INC.	1,188.00
10256	691	- TRANS WORLD ASSURANCE CO.	800.00
10257	1257	- UNUM LIFE/DISABILITY INSUR	1,557.43
10258	2032	- UPS STORE	235.45
10259	2716	- UPSEU LOCAL 424J	1,596.00
10260	4579	- USPS	6,000.00
10261	2428	- VERA RUMSEY	13,269.60
10262	1280	- VERIZON WIRELESS, INC.	1,892.16
10263	1158	- VISION SERVICE PLAN	1,246.51
10264	2635	- W.B. MASON, INC.	321.99
10265	633	- WEIS MARKETS, INC.	326.52

10266	4781 - WINDOW PLUS HOME IMPROVEMENT	2,818.88
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,662,696.29</b>

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

Deputy Mayor Le Frois made a motion to approve the **COMBINED ACTION RESOLUTIONS**, it was seconded by Mr. Dickson and roll call resulted as follows:

Mr. Dickson	Yes	Mrs. Diglio	Yes
Mrs. Le Frois	Yes	Mrs. Teets	Yes
	Mayor Couce	Yes	

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION #82-2024**

**“Authorizing Waiving of Water and Sewer Utility Charges for the Newton Volunteer First Aid Squad for Calendar Year 2024”**

**WHEREAS**, the Newton First Aid Squad, “NFAS”, is a not-for-profit entity, comprised solely of volunteers that provide emergency assistance to the Newton community; and

**WHEREAS**, the “NFAS” owns Block 22.01, Lot 24 also known as 66 Sussex Street, which houses their vehicles, equipment, and provides for a meeting place; and

**WHEREAS**, the “NFAS” operating expenses are funded through donations and fundraising efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Newton Town Council supports the efforts of the “NFAS” and would like to assist, so they may continue to provide this valuable emergency service to the people of Newton;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that it hereby waives the water and sewer utility charges incurred at Block 22.01, Lot 24 by the Newton First Aid Squad for calendar year 2024.

Deputy Mayor Le Frois made a motion to approve **RESOLUTION #82-2024**, it was seconded by Mr. Dickson and roll call resulted as follows:

Mr. Dickson	Yes	Mrs. Diglio	Abstain
Mrs. Le Frois	Yes	Mrs. Teets	Yes
	Mayor Couce	Abstain	

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Couce opened the meeting to the public.

There being no one from the public to be heard in-person or on Zoom, Mayor Couce closed the meeting to the public.

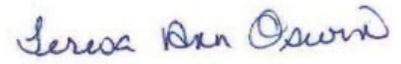
**COUNCIL MANAGER COMMENTS** - none.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be conducted, upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Le Frois seconded by Mrs. Teets and unanimously carried, the Regular meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Teresa A. Oswin".

Teresa A. Oswin, RMC  
Municipal Clerk