

March 11, 2024

A special meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Newton was held on the above date at 5:00pm. Present were Mrs. Diglio, Mrs. Teets, Deputy Mayor Le Frois, Mayor Couce, and Municipal Clerk, Teresa A. Oswin. Mr. Dickson attended via telephone.

The Town Council scheduled seven (7) interviews for various vacancies on Boards and Commissions in Newton.

At 5:00pm the Governing Body interviewed Pamela Fletcher who expressed an interest in serving on the Recreation Commission.

Ms. Fletcher introduced herself and gave a brief overview of both her professional and personal experience. She stated she was born and raised in Newton, her father was a Newton cop, she worked in the County Prosecutor's Office for many years, and is now retired. She feels she is a real asset because she knows the Town and a lot of the people. Her main interest is in Recreation, but he would be willing to consider another Board or Commission.

After a brief dialogue with Ms. Fletcher, the Governing Body agreed to complete all the interviews prior to filling the vacancies. Ms. Fletcher will be advised upon the completion of the remaining interviews being held tonight.

The Town Council thanked Ms. Fletcher for volunteering her time to the community.

At 5:30pm the Governing Body interviewed Stephanie Gergeres who expressed an interest in serving on several Boards and Commissions.

Ms. Gergeres introduced herself and outlined her interest and qualifications for serving. She stated she is from Florida and moved here a few years ago, and she works in marketing. She stated she would like to get to know the Town better.

The Council reviewed the schedule and aspects of several different Boards of Commissions with Ms. Gergeres. Mrs. Diglio suggested a good way to get to know the Town better would be by serving on the Planning Board.

The Town Council thanked Ms. Gergeres for her interest in volunteering her time to the community. They went on to explain they have a few more interviews to conduct before they make any final decisions. They will be in touch with her.

At 5:45pm the Governing Body interviewed Mark Fiedorczyk who expressed an interest in serving on the Housing Authority.

Mr. Fiedorczyk introduced himself and outlined his interest and qualifications for serving Housing Authority. His wife Maria, served on the Authority for almost 30 years

March 11, 2024

before she passed last year. He would attend all the events at Liberty Towers with his wife and knows most of the residents. He would really like to carry on the work his wife was doing. He has ideas for the Authority and would like to see a social committee set up and get the kids in Town more involved as part of their community service requirements for various groups.

After a lengthy discussion, Council advised Mr. Fiedorczyk they are conducting interviews with several applicants. The Town Council thanked Mr. Fiedorczyk for volunteering his time to the community and will advise him of their findings.

At 6:00pm the Governing Body interviewed Joseph Ricciardo, he is interested in serving on the Historic Preservation Advisory Commission.

Mr. Ricciardo stated his professional and personal experience. He currently serves on the Housing Authority, and he previously served on the Historic Commission, Planning Board, and Town Council. He is very familiar with the Town and has extensive experience in construction. He would like to see the Commission stick more to the code and not personal preferences. He would also like the Commission to work with contractors/developers when doing work in the Historic District so they can use alternative materials for better energy efficiency.

After a lengthy discussion, Council advised Mr. Ricciardo they are conducting interviews with several applicants. They thanked him for his time and willingness to volunteer. They will be in touch.

Ms. Christina Ventricelli, did not show for her scheduled interview.

At 6:20pm, the Governing Body interviewed Paige Loughran, she is interested in serving on the Economic Development Commission.

Ms. Loughran introduced herself, and stated she was born and raised in Sussex County. She has her master's degree in accounting. Through her work experience she knows how to help and attract new businesses. She likes all the amenities the Town has to offer. It is suburban but gives you a city feel.

After a brief dialogue with Ms. Loughran, the Governing Body agreed to complete all the interviews prior to filling the vacancies. Ms. Loughran will be advised upon the completion of the remaining interviews being held tonight.

Mr. Dickson arrived in-person at 6:40pm.

At 6:40pm The Governing Body interviewed Ralph Porter.

Mr. Porter introduced himself stating he currently volunteers on the Historic

March 11, 2024

Commission but would like to be appointed as an alternate to the Planning Board. He has been a resident of Sussex County for 56 years and of Newton for 42. He feels there is a disconnect with work being done in the Historic District and the Commission. He feels part of the problem is the change in construction rules. You no longer need a permit to do a roof or siding, so people do work and do not know they need Historic approval. He would like to see notices go out to all the properties in the Historic District, and he would like to be an extra voice on the Planning Board.

After a brief dialogue with Mr. Porter, the Governing Body agreed to complete all the interviews prior to filling the vacancies. Mr. Porter will be advised upon the completion of the remaining interviews being held tonight.

There being no further business to be discussed, upon motion of Deputy Mayor Le Frois, seconded by Mrs. Teets and carried, the Council adjourned at 6:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa A. Oswin, RMC  
Municipal Clerk