

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, Mrs. Teets, Mayor Couce, Teresa A. Oswin, Municipal Clerk, and Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Town Manager. Monica Miebach, CMFO and Eric M. Bernstein, Esq., Town Attorney were also present. Deputy Mayor Le Frois 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 Mr. Dickson and all those present voting yes, the minutes for the March 25, 2024 Regular Meeting were approved as presented.

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Le Frois, seconded by Mr. Dickson and all those present voting yes, with Mayor Couce abstaining from the portion related to the discussion with the Police Chief, the minutes from the March 25, 2024 Executive Session were approved as presented.

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 – noted there was one proclamation for the Mayor to read into the record for "Child Abuse Prevention Month". He offered congratulations to all those nominated for awards by the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce. The luncheon will be held on April 25th. This Thursday, April 11th is the Town of Newton's 160th birthday for our incorporation.

Councilmember Dickson – nothing to report.

Councilmember Diglio – offered congratulations to the Newton Robotics Team at the recent Leigh Valley Competition.

April 8, 2024

Councilmember Teets – the Easter Egg Hunt, held on a sunny morning; a great job by Danielle and Barbara. She and Deputy Mayor Le Frois attended the popular event. She is looking forward to next year's. There was a fairly large structure fire the same day. She offered kudos to the Fire Department, Police Department, Newton Rescue Squad, DPW, and all the mutual aid agencies that responded. A great job was done by all!

Deputy Mayor Le Frois – Halsted Middle Schools FBLA community service project was on suicide prevention and their theme was "Show Kindness" The attended the 2024 State Middle School conference, she believes Newton's is the only one in the County that has a FBLA Middle School program. Officer Bellis has been busy issuing positivity tickets. On April 24th from 4pm to 6pm there will be a Family Health Expo at Project Self Sufficiency. She offered thanks to all the First Responders that helped with the 39 Halsted Street fire.

Mayor Couce – read the following for the record.

Office of the Mayor

Newton, New Jersey

Proclamation

Child Abuse Prevention Month

April 2024

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a complex and ongoing problem in our society, affecting many children in Sussex County; and

WHEREAS, every child is entitled to be loved, cared for, nurtured, feel secure and be free from verbal, sexual, emotional and physical abuse, and neglect; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect not only directly harms children, but also increases the likelihood of criminal behavior, substance abuse, health problems, and risky behavior; and

WHEREAS, the effects of child abuse are felt by communities as a whole, and need to be addressed by the entire community; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among families, social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community;

NOW THEREFORE, WE, the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Newton, hereby proclaim **April 2024** as Child Abuse Prevention Month, and call upon our citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in the efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

*In witness whereof I have hereunto set my
Hand and caused this seal to be affixed.*

_____/s/ John-Paul Couce

Attest: _____/s/ Teresa A. Oswin

Date: _____ April 8, 2024

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

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 #108-2024*

“Resolution to Correct the Term Limits of Certain Appointments Made on Resolution #94-2024”

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the following appointment terms be updated as follows:

<u>Board/Commission</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>
Historic Preservation (Alt.)	<u>Joseph Atkinson</u>	2 Years	December 31, 2025
Historic Preservation (Alt.)	<u>Mathias Banner</u>	2 Years	December 31, 2024

RESOLUTION #109-2024*

“Resolution to Reappoint Members to the Newton Housing Authority”

WHEREAS, Mary Ann Carlson and Joseph Ricciardo have expressed interest in continuing to serve on the Newton Housing Authority; and

WHEREAS, Rick Bitondo, Vice-Chairperson of the Newton Housing Authority, recommends reappointing Ms. Carlson and Mr. Ricciardo;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the following reappointments be made to the Newton Housing Authority:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>
Mary Ann Carlson (Resident)	5 Years	April 30, 2029
Joseph Ricciardo	5 Years	April 30, 2029

RESOLUTION #110-2024*

“Authorize the Award of a Required Disclosure Contract to Trojan Technologies”

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton has a need for an aftermarket comprehensive service plan, technical support, and inspection for the microfiltration system of its water treatment facility and has obtained a professional services quote for service from Trojan Technologies, 839 NYS Route 13, Cortland, New York, 13045 as a Required Disclosure Contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton QPA, Sean Canning, has determined and certified in writing that the value of the acquisition will exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is for the 2024 year; and

WHEREAS, Trojan Technologies has provided for a quote of \$36,700.00 in service costs for the 2024 year, in excess of the pay to play threshold of \$17,500; and

April 8, 2024

WHEREAS, Trojan Technologies has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Trojan Technologies 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 Trojan Technologies from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified funds are available subject to approval of the 2024 budget by the Governing Body;

Account number #09-201-56-502-217

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Newton authorizes the Newton Town Manager to enter into contract with Trojan Technologies, 839 NYS Route 13, Cortland, New York, 13045 as a Required Disclosure Contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, for aftermarket comprehensive service plan, technical support, and inspection for the microfiltration system of its water treatment facility, for 2024 in the amount of \$36,700.00; and

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

RESOLUTION #111-2024*

“Resolution Authorizing the Release of the Performance Guarantees Posted by Thorlabs, Inc., the Developer of Block 1104, Lot 21”

WHEREAS, the Municipal Land Use Law (N.J.S.A. 40:55D-53) permits the Town of Newton to release performance guarantees posted by developer(s) when said improvements have been certified as complete by the Town Engineer; and

WHEREAS, the developer, Thorlabs, Inc., has deposited with the Town of Newton a performance guarantee, which is to guarantee the completion of certain improvements on the premises located on Merriam Avenue, Pine Street, and Sparta Avenue in the Town of Newton, located as Block 1104, Lot 21 on the official Tax Map of the Town of Newton; and

WHEREAS, David Simmons, Jr, P.E., of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, Inc., representing the Town Engineer, has advised the Town that the remaining improvements have been completed and that the Town Engineer recommends the release of the aforementioned performance bond in the amount of Twenty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$24,000.00);

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 performance guarantee posted by Thorlabs, Inc. and accepted by the Town of Newton in the amount of Twenty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$24,000.00), is hereby released, canceled, and discharged.

RESOLUTION #112-2024*

“Approve Fireworks Display at Memory Park for Newton Day 2024”

WHEREAS, a Resolution of the Newton Governing Body is required by the New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Workplace Standards, to grant permission for the public display of fireworks; and

WHEREAS, International Fireworks, of Douglasville, PA has submitted a proposal for a fireworks display with a copy of the permit application, certificate of insurance, a site diagram, and other pertinent information, in conjunction with the fireworks display that will take place at Memory Park on Saturday, June 8, 2024 as part of the annual “Newton Day” celebration with a rain date of June 15, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Sussex County Fire Marshal Virgil Rome, has advised the application for said fireworks display is complete and in order;

April 8, 2024

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the Greater Newton Chamber of Commerce is granted permission for a fireworks display during the “Newton Day” celebration to take place on Saturday, June 8, 2024, with a rain date of June 15, 2024, and that said fireworks display will be provided by International Fireworks, of Douglasville, PA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified original of this Resolution be forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Labor and Sussex County Fire Marshal Virgil Rome.

RESOLUTION #113-2024*

“Authorize Credit Due Water and Sewer Utility Account”

WHEREAS, the Water and Sewer Collector has determined the following Water and Sewer Utility Account is due a credit for the reason 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 account for the amount billed incorrectly due to the reason stated:

CREDIT FOR AN ACCOUNT THAT SHOULD BE INACTIVE:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>
3812	72 Mill Street	\$300.19

RESOLUTION #114-2024*

“Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Services Agreement for Zoning Officer Services with the Township of Hardyston”

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton (“Town”) and the Township of Hardyston (“Township”) are interested in entering into a Shared Services Agreement (“Agreement”), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et. seq., for the purposes of utilizing the services of the Town’s Zoning Officer; and

WHEREAS, the Town and the Township have entered into negotiations for an Agreement and created a mutually acceptable Agreement for the providing of the Zoning Officer services as per the terms and conditions set forth in the proposed Agreement for the period of April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to authorize execution, on its behalf, as to this Agreement, a copy of which will be available in the Town Clerk’s office;

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 Town wishes to enter into a Shared Services Agreement with the Township of Hardyston for Zoning Officer services and hereby authorizes the Newton Town Manager and the Newton Town Clerk to execute/attest said Agreement on behalf of the Town.

Teresa A. Oswin, RMC
Municipal Clerk

John-Paul E. Couce, Mayor
Town of Newton

RESOLUTION #115-2024*

“Resolution of Support for NJDOT Traffic Regulation Order for Center Lane Left Turn Only on Route 206 in the Town of Newton”

WHEREAS, New Jersey State Highway 206 (“Route 206”) passes through the Town of Newton (“Town”), from its geographic boundary with Andover Township, through its corporation limits to the geographic boundary as of the Township of Hampton; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (“NJDOT”), Department of Traffic Engineering, has completed an investigation into the installation and use of the existing “Center Lane for Left Turns Only” markings on certain portions of Route 206 in Town; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOT Commissioner of Transportation (“Commissioner”), in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 39:4-8.3(a), may, by written Traffic Regulation Order, provide for the regulation of traffic and parking on public highways or transportation systems under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner and for the establishment, operation, control, and maintenance of official traffic control devices thereon; and

WHEREAS, NJDOT has determined that the existing “Center Lane for Left Turns Only” markings on Route 206 in Town are supported by and recommended for approval as Land Use Reservations by the Commissioner of Transportation through promulgation of a Traffic Regulation Order; and

WHEREAS, in order to legally establish said regulation of said “Center Lane for Left Turns Only” as Land Use Reservations through a Traffic Regulation Order, the Town of Newton is required to promulgate a Resolution of support, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-8.4(c), for designating those certain lanes on Route 206 as Lane Use Reservations;

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 Town, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-8.4(c) hereby supports the designation of the following lane locations as Lane Use Reservations and supports the issuance of a Traffic Regulation Order as follows:

Center Lane for Left Turns Only

Location

Movement

Route US 206 beginning 350 feet north of the centerline of East Clinton Street and extending 1,450 feet northerly therefrom (approximate mile posts 109.45 to 109.75).

Center Lane of Route US 206 reserved For Left Turns Only in **both** directions as indicated.

Route US 206 beginning 170 feet north of the centerline of S. Park Street and extending 525 feet northerly to the Hampton corporate line there from. (Approximate mile posts 109.85 to 109.90).

Center Lane of Route US 206 reserved For Left Turns Only in **both** directions as indicated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Newton, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Town Council concur that any approved traffic regulations in conflict with or inconsistent with the provisions of this Resolution be rescinded upon approval of the Traffic Regulation Order.

Teresa A. Oswin, RMC
Municipal Clerk

John-Paul E. Couce, Mayor
Town of Newton

RESOLUTION #116-2024*

“Authorize Award of Contract for Phillips, Preiss 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, Keenan Hughes, of Phillips, Preiss has provided 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, the Town's Chief Financial Officer hereby certifies that funds are available in the applicable budgets, accounts, and escrows; and

WHEREAS, Phillips, Preiss 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 Newton Town Manager and the Newton 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 Phillips, Preiss providing for the retention of Phillips, Preiss as Conflict Town Planner for the Town and/or other applicable entities.

Keenan Hughes, Principal

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

RESOLUTION #117-2024*

“Resolution to Read Budget by Title”

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-8 as amended provides that the Budget shall be read in full at the public hearing, or that it may be read by its title only if:

1. At least one week prior to the date of the hearing and at the hearing, a complete copy of the approved budget;
 - a. Shall be made available for public inspection; and
 - b. Shall be made available to each person upon request

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Town of Newton that it is hereby declared that the conditions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8, as amended set forth in subsections 1 (a) and 1 (b), have been met and therefore the Budget shall be read by title only.

RESOLUTION #118-2024*

“Self-Examination of Budget Resolution”

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the *Town of Newton* has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2024 budget year;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Town of Newton that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the Governing Body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:
 - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
 - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
 - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
 - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
 - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
 - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes
2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).
3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.
4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
 - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate, and correctly stated
 - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
 - c. In itemization, form, arrangement, and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality
5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

RESOLUTION #119-2024*

“Resolution to Adopt Procedures for Administration and Inspection of Federal and Highway Projects”

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) provides opportunities for Local Public Agencies (LPA), such as the Town of Newton, to receive Federal Aid Highway Program (FAHP or Federal-aid) funds through New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton is presently the recipient of Federal-aid funds through a project awarded under the NJDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) for the Memory Park Connector Boardwalk 2023 TAP Project; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton as an LPA, is responsible for administering federal-aid funded projects in compliance with all Federal-aid requirements established by the FHWA; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOT, through its Stewardship Agreement with FHWA, is responsible for ensuring the Town of Newton is adequately staffed and suitably equipped to undertake federal-aid projects, and ensure that federal requirements are met; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton, as required by the NJDOT, has developed a policy outlining the required procedures for the Administration of Federally Funded Transportation Projects administered through the NJDOT;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that the Town of Newton adopts the policy entitled, “Town of Newton Procedure for Administration and Inspection of Federal Aid Highway Projects” dated March, 2024.

Teresa A. Oswin, RMC
Municipal Clerk

John-Paul E. Couce, Mayor
Town of Newton

RESOLUTION #122-2024*

“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 2023 and 2024 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 No.	Vendor	Vendor	Amount
10439	3773	- A&S HYDRAULICS INC.	499.26
10440	4805	- ADAMSON GARY	1,500.00
10441	2799	- AFLAC	2,519.84
10442	2799	- AFLAC	2,519.84
10443	2141	- AIRMATIC COMPRESSOR SYSTEMS, INC.	1,218.62
10444	3897	- AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	695.86
10445	3869	- AMERICAN FIDELITY ASSURANCE	669.80
10446	3868	- AMERICAN FIDELITY ASSURANCE COMPANY	683.32
10447	4728	- ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY RECYCLERS INC	85.00
10448	514	- BEN SHAFFER & RECREATION INC.	3,369.00
10449	4733	- BLOODGOOD LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING GROUP	175.00
10450	4810	- BOONTON TIRE & AUTO REPAIR	631.50
10451	300	- BRIGHTSPEED	125.85
10452	702	- C W A LOCAL 1032	653.82
10453	192	- CAMPBELL'S SMALL ENGINE INC.	601.79
10454	3015	- CAPITOL SUPPLY CONST PRODUCTS, INC.	50,362.65
10455	4806	- CARDIO PARTNERS INC	163.99
10456	3770	- CINTAS	180.00
10457	2697	- CIVIC PLUS LLC	9,922.11
10458	768	- DEMPSEY UNIFORM & SUPPLY INC	1,520.85
10459	2386	- DOMINICK'S PIZZA LLC	136.10
10460	4804	- EPICSOUL BAND LLC	1,500.00
10461	4804	- EPICSOUL BAND LLC	1,500.00
10462	4385	- ERIC M. BERNSTEIN & ASSOCIATES, LLC.	5,747.44
10463	4355	- FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY	2,027.00
10464	71	- FISHER SCIENTIFIC	936.81
10465	200	- GARDEN STATE LABORATORIES INC	3,983.00
10466	4755	- GATES FLAG & BANNER COMPANY INC.	3,740.00
10467	2626	- GENERAL CODE, LLC	2,573.00
10468	4384	- GIBBONS P.C.	475.00
10469	4398	- GLOBAL RECYCLING SOLUTIONS LLC	730.49
10470	789	- GNCC	500.00
10471	4600	- GUEST, JOSHUA	20.00
10472	232	- HAMBURG PLUMBING SUPPLY CO INC	1,985.44
10473	4163	- HENDERSON PROMOS, LLC	888.50
10474	3876	- HOLLAND COMPANY, INC.	11,488.52
10475	1866	- HOME DEPOT, INC.	2,057.38
10476	4687	- INTERNATIONAL FIREWORKS MANUFACTURING CO	3,500.00
10477	332	- J & D SALES & SERVICE, LLC.	250.00
10478	1271	- JCI JONES CHEMICALS, INC	4,163.66

April 8, 2024

10479	113	- JCP&L	1,913.72
10480	4799	- JEFFERSON RECYCLING INC	1,250.00
10481	2569	- KIEFFER ELECTRIC, INC.	5,690.28
10482	3711	- KKPR MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS,	3,769.98
10483	1566	- MAIN POOL & CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC.	2,145.00
10484	4381	- MID-AMERICAN ELEVATOR CO., INC.	510.00
10485	4531	- MILLENNIUM STRATEGIES LLC	5,000.00
10486	53	- MONTAGUE TOOL & SUPPLY, INC.	323.85
10487	949	- MULLER, THOMAS	100.00
10488	3886	- MUSKY TROUT HATCHERIES, LLC.	1,001.00
10489	170	- NEWTON BOARD OF EDUCATION	1,350.00
10490	700	- NEWTON PATROLMANS ASSOCIATION	900.00
10491	1745	- NEWTON SUPERIOR OFFICERS	420.00
10492	2835	- NJMEBF	213,712.00
10493	4811	- ORTIZ, RICHARD	200.00
10494	4817	- PACO'S PIZZERIA	150.00
10495	4656	- PAULUS, SOKOLOWSKI & SARTOR LLC	17,367.50
10496	4204	- PLANET NETWORKS INC.	1,499.97
10497	2504	- PowerDMS, Inc.	361.52
10498	4813	- PUBLIC AGENCY TRAINING COUNCIL	350.00
10499	39	- QUILL CORPORATION	121.99
10500	2478	- RACHLES/MICHELE'S OIL COMPANY, INC.	5,427.78
10501	4203	- RAPID PUMP	5,801.91
10502	2932	- RULLO & JUILET ASSOCIATES, INC.	2,800.00
10503	126	- SCMUA	1,684.93
10504	2145	- SEELY BROTHERS, INC.	914.40
10505	4647	- SIZZLE BBQ	70.25
10506	316	- SPARTA TOWNSHIP TAX COLLECTOR	17,703.64
10507	2257	- STAPLES	306.97
10508	2493	- STRUTURAL METAL FABRICATORS, INC.	2,382.64
10509	4144	- SUBURBAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.	13,640.25
10510	2056	- SUBURBAN PROPANE, LP.	2,980.26
10511	102	- SUSSEX CAR WASH INC	208.00
10512	2310	- SUSSEX COUNTY ENGINEERING DIVISION	404.67
10513	130	- SUSSEX COUNTY P & H, INC.	546.63
10514	371	- T.A. MOUNTFORD COMPANY, INC.	315.00
10515	2479	- TAYLOR OIL CO., INC.	3,779.21
10516	676	- THE EQUITABLE	11,340.00
10517	3115	- THE NJ SHADE TREE FEDERATION	195.00
10518	2675	- TIRE KING, INC.	35.00
10519	4508	- TORRES, JUDY A	100.00
10520	2880	- TRACTOR SUPPLY	375.86
10521	219	- TRI-STATE RENTALS, INC.	340.14
10522	2781	- TRIMBOLI & PRUSINOWSKI, LLC.	1,377.00
10523	4152	- UNITED SITE SERVICES, INC	11,863.53
10524	1257	- UNUM LIFE/DISABILITY INSUR	811.31
10525	2716	- UPSEU LOCAL 424J	798.00
10526	1739	- VERIZON CONNECT	189.50
10527	1158	- VISION SERVICE PLAN	2,493.02
10528	2635	- W.B. MASON, INC.	11.99
10529	1500	- WALMART	53.75
10530	477	- WATER & SEWER CAPITAL ACCOUNT	10,000.00
10531	633	- WEIS MARKETS	79.32
10532	4041	- WHIBCO OF NEW JERSEY INC.	318.58
10533	3726	- WITMER PUBLIC SAFETY GROUP, INC.	3,318.82
TOTAL			487,104.61

The Clerk presented an application from Andre Hewitt for membership into the Newton Fire Department. The Clerk noted the application was in order and all signed by the Fire Chief.

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

Mrs. Teets made a motion to approve the **COMBINED ACTION RESOLUTIONS**, and it was seconded by Mrs. Diglio and roll call resulted as follows:

Mr. Dickson Yes Mrs. Diglio Yes

Mrs. Le Frois Yes Mrs. Teets Yes

Mayor Couce Yes
(abstain on checks #10450 and #10496)

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #120-2024

“Resolution to Amend Employment Agreement Between the Town of Newton and Police Chief Steven VanNieuwland”

WHEREAS, on November 14, 2022, the Town of Newton (“Town”) and Police Chief Steven VanNieuwland (“Chief”) entered into an employment agreement between the two as the Chief serving in the capacity of Police Chief, covering the terms and conditions of his employment; and

WHEREAS, since entering into said Employment Agreement, the Chief has taken on additional duties and responsibilities overseeing the Town’s animal control services, both in the Town itself and through the negotiation of and administration of several shared services agreements between the Town and various municipalities in Sussex and Warren counties for animal control services; and

WHEREAS, said animal control services functions were not contemplated when the Town and Chief entered into the November 14, 2022 Employment Agreement and the Mayor and the Town Council, upon the recommendation of the Town Manager, wish to increase the Chief’s base salary to reflect said additional responsibilities;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Deputy Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Newton, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that the Town and the Chief agree to execute an Addendum to the Chief’s November 14, 2022 Employment Agreement, a copy of which shall be attached to this Resolution, to reflect the additional compensation and services rendered by the Chief as it relates to the Town’s animal control services. The Newton Town Manager and Newton Town Clerk are hereby authorized to execute said Addendum on behalf of the Town.

Teresa A. Oswin, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Helen R. Le Frois, Deputy Mayor
Town of Newton

April 8, 2024

Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Le Frois, to approve **Resolution #120-2024**, seconded by Mrs. Teets and roll call resulted as follows:

Mr. Dickson	No	Mrs. Diglio	Yes
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.

HEARING ON THE 2024 BUDGET

Mr. Russo started by thanking Monica, the department heads, staff, and our professionals for their help this year, then gave the following presentation on the 2024 Municipal and Water & Sewer Budget.



TOWN OF NEWTON

2024 Budget

Thomas S. Russo, Jr., MPA, CPM, PLC
Town Manager
4.8.2024



FISCAL FACTS



YOUR TAX DOLLARS

The property tax is divided among the County of Sussex, County Library, County Open Space, Newton Board of Education, and the Town of Newton. The chart below illustrates the percentage each of the jurisdictions received in 2023 from the average taxpayer in the Town.



Newton Board of Education	50.02%	\$2.248
Town of Newton	34.74%	\$1.561
County of Sussex	14.09%	\$0.633
County Library	1.08%	\$0.049
County Open Space	0.07%	\$0.003
Total	100.0%	\$4.494 per \$100 of assessed value



APPROPRIATIONS 2023 vs. 2024



COMPARISON OF APPROPRIATION BUDGETED AMOUNTS FOR 2023 AND 2024				
	2023		2024	
Salaries	\$5,539,217	33.8%	\$5,991,742	38.4%
Health/Dental/Vision/Work Comp.	\$2,345,526	14.3%	\$2,503,446	16.0%
Pensions	\$1,264,918	7.7%	\$1,253,335	8.0%
FICA/SUI	\$260,300	1.6%	\$288,000	1.8%
Retirement/LOSAP/Accum. Absence	\$77,000	.50%	\$143,326	.92%
Subtotal	\$9,486,961	57.9%	\$10,179,849	65.2%
General Operating Expenses	\$2,310,416	14.0%	\$2,382,549	15.3%
Debt/Capital/Deferred Charges	\$2,209,661	13.5%	\$2,265,267	14.5%
Reserve for Tax Appeals	\$22,491	.2%	\$18,000	.1%
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$554,791	3.4%	\$473,396	3.0%
Grants	\$1,797,982	11.0%	\$293,877	1.9%
Total	\$16,382,302	100.00%	\$15,612,938	100.00%



TOP 10 BUDGET APPROPRIATION INCREASES BY DOLLAR AMOUNT



APPROPRIATION	2023 BUDGET	2024 BUDGET	\$ CHANGE
Finance S&W	\$128,000	\$151,500	\$23,500
Group Insurance – OE	\$1,963,330	\$2,041,863	\$78,533
Police S&W	\$2,977,864	\$3,107,850	\$129,986
Cencom S&W	\$477,814	\$494,000	\$16,186
Streets & Roads S&W	\$652,246	\$713,800	\$61,554
Snow Removal S&W	\$60,000	\$94,000	\$34,000
Animal Control S&W	\$18,000	\$87,500	\$69,500
Accumulated Absences	\$10,000	\$64,826	\$54,826
Swimming Pool S&W	\$126,980	\$167,010	\$40,030
Utilities	\$526,200	\$593,000	\$66,800



REVENUE HISTORY



The chart below tracks revenues over the course of the last five (5) years. Here is a comparison of revenues from 2020 – 2024:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
State Aid	1,030,549	1,025,916	1,025,916	1,086,018	1,146,141
Local Fees, Fines, Interest	472,470	593,904	542,408	642,383	877,202
Fund Balance (Surplus)	1,364,000	1,425,200	1,869,200	2,050,791	2,291,671
Delinquent Taxes	420,000	450,000	457,311	235,000	185,000
Municipal Taxes	8,893,400	8,916,873	9,175,866	9,535,046	9,593,181
Interlocal Agreements	90,000	129,500	126,425	139,813	228,433
Grants	37,700	17,050	206,310	1,761,272	259,727
Spec. Items of Revenue	894,919	850,354	899,632	931,979	1,031,583
Total	\$13,203,038	\$13,408,797	\$14,303,068	\$16,382,302	\$15,612,938



TAX RATE FOR 2024



With the uncertainty of State Aid payments and the fluctuating prospects of grant funding, coupled with the reality of a tax base that has 1/3 tax exempt properties, it is an ever-increasing challenge to maintain appropriate service levels and sound fiscal policies while mitigating any significant municipal tax increases.

After the completion of the Reassessment this year, the Net Value Taxable (NVT) has gone up to \$1,041,882,244.

Additionally, the new average residential property assessment has gone up from the 2023 level of \$185,638 to the new 2024 level of \$318,778. Therefore, factoring in the budget and tax levy as proposed, the municipal taxes on an average residential property are estimated to go from \$2,899 in 2023 to \$2,935 in 2024 – an average increase of only \$3 a month.



TAX RATE HISTORY - 2015 thru 2024



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Subtotal General Revenues	3,610,984	3,801,500	3,802,000	3,950,687	4,289,312	4,308,997	4,491,924	5,127,202	6,837,555	6,019,757
Amt to be Raised by Taxes - Local	8,434,016	8,612,938	8,733,000	8,815,313	8,840,688	8,893,400	8,916,873	9,175,866	9,535,046	9,593,181
Budget as Introduced	12,045,000	12,414,438	12,535,000	12,766,000	13,130,000	13,202,397	13,408,797	14,303,068	16,372,601	15,612,938
Local TAX Increase over prior yr	244,685	178,922	120,062	82,313	25,375	52,712	23,473	261,723	359,180	58,135
Local TAX POINT increase over P/Yr	3.868	3.219	2.610	1.832	0.617	1.704	0.590	2.949	0.030	-0.641
Local tax rate	1.3948	1.4270	1.4531	1.4714	1.4776	1.4946	1.501	1.530	1.562	0.921
Assessed valuation / 10,000	60,467	60,357	60,099	59,910	59,832	59,502	59,425	59,990	61,051	104,188
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Net Valuation Taxable	604,669,025	603,569,459	600,989,949	599,101,342	598,318,825	595,022,453	594,248,488	599,007,500	610,512,520	1,041,882,244
Tax Point	60,467	60,357	60,099	59,910	59,832	59,502	59,425	59,901	61,051	104,188
Municipal Tax Rate	1.3948	1.4270	1.4531	1.4714	1.4776	1.4946	1.501	1.5318	1.5618	0.921
Amount to be Raised by Taxes	8,434,016	8,612,938	8,733,000	8,815,313	8,840,688	8,893,400	8,916,873	9,175,866	9,535,046	9,593,181
Class 2 Residential Total Taxable	370,575,800	370,400,000	366,298,200	366,024,200	368,018,900	369,930,100	369,516,200	371,513,100	373,875,300	644,888,000
Number of Residential Parcels	1,969	1,974	1,970	1,972	1,991	1,998	1,995	2,005	2,014	2,023
Average Assessed Home	188,205	187,639	185,938	185,611	184,841	185,150	185,221	185,293	185,638	318,778
Munic Taxes on Avg Assess Home	2,625	2,678	2,702	2,731	2,731	2,767	2,779	2,839	2,899	2,935
Increase in taxes over p/yr	65	53	24	29	0	36	12	60	61	36
Weekly increase	1.25	1.01	0.47	0.56	0.00	0.69	0.230	1.156	1.171	0.689
Daily increase	0.179	0.144	0.066	0.080	0.000	0.099	0.033	0.165	0.167	0.098



ESTIMATED MUNICIPAL TAX INCREASE ON AVERAGE ASSESSED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY



- 2003 - \$67.
- 2004 - \$250.
- 2005 - \$247.
- 2006 - \$187.
- 2007 - \$125.
- 2008 - \$298.
- 2009 - \$188.
- 2010 - \$182.
- 2011 - \$80.
- 2012 - \$19.
- 2013 - \$20.
- 2014 - \$12.
- 2015 - \$65.
- 2016 - \$53.
- 2017 - \$24.
- 2018 - \$29.
- 2019 - \$0.
- 2020 - \$36.
- 2021 - \$12.
- 2022 - \$60.
- 2023 - \$60.
- 2024 - \$36.



FUND BALANCE HISTORY



Year	Total Surplus Available	Amt. Used to Support Budget	Balance
January 1 1883	414,784	275,000	139,784
1884	257,385	175,000	82,385
1885	300,547	230,000	125,547
1886	337,382	230,000	107,382
1887	487,335	364,000	123,335
1888	1,028,052	828,775	199,277
1889	610,531	516,407	94,124
1890	315,660	180,000	135,660
1891	406,772	280,000	126,772
1892	366,583	323,000	43,583
1893	616,181	430,000	186,181
1894	500,000	400,000	100,000
1895	910,886	650,000	260,886
1896	666,558	500,000	166,558
1897	458,525	350,000	108,525
1898	583,487	495,000	88,487
1899	584,140	450,000	134,140
2000	595,320	475,000	120,320
2001	758,919	670,000	195,124
2002	750,000	670,000	78,182
2003	774,407	670,000	104,407
2004	755,416	626,000	129,416
2005	726,654	580,000	146,654
2006	909,066	700,000	209,066
2007	1,071,959	721,000	350,959
2008	1,256,151	863,571	392,580
2009	920,307	607,000	313,307
2010	1,112,645	803,000	309,645
2011	859,757	550,000	309,757
2012	979,774	641,000	338,774
2013	1,542,318	776,000	766,318
2014	1,563,752	841,481	722,291
2015	1,498,339	776,048	722,291
2016	1,504,223	810,876	693,347
2017	2,280,302	897,000	1,383,302
2018	2,482,557	1,096,000	1,386,557
2019	2,848,266	1,320,000	1,528,266
2020	2,832,783	1,364,500	1,468,283
2021	2,922,773	1,425,200	1,496,933
2022	3,476,303	1,869,200	1,607,103
2023	3,778,446	2,050,791	1,727,655
2024	4,451,632	2,291,671	2,159,961



REVENUE COMPARISON – TOWN



REVENUE COMPARISON	(2013 - 2024)											
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Fund Balance	2,291,671	2,045,169	1,869,200	1,425,200	1,364,000	1,320,000	1,096,000	897,000	810,876	776,048	841,461	776,000
Energy Receipts Tax	1,029,508	1,017,377	1,017,377	1,017,377	1,017,377	1,017,377	1,017,377	1,017,377	1,013,467	1,013,467	988,389	993,278
Municipal Relief Fund	106,118	55,724										
CMPTRA								0	3,910	3,910	18,988	24,099
GSTrust	10,515	8,539	8,539	8,539	13,172	8,539	8,539	8,539	8,539	8,539	8,539	8,539
Homeland Security												
Subtotal State Aid	1,146,141	1,081,640	1,025,916	1,025,916	1,030,549	1,025,916	1,025,916	1,025,916	1,025,916	1,025,916	1,025,916	1,025,916
Public & Private	259,727	1,761,272	206,310	17,050	37,700	72,881	40,179	38,865	68,916	51,961	47,083	38,317
All Other Misc	2,137,218	1,714,174	1,568,465	1,573,758	1,567,748	1,518,013	1,438,592	1,481,199	1,383,416	1,238,059	1,612,109	1,518,280
Del Taxes	185,000	235,000	457,311	450,000	420,000	350,000	350,000	359,000	512,376	519,000	360,000	330,000
Subtotal General Revenues	6,019,757	6,837,255	5,127,202	4,491,924	4,419,997	4,286,810	3,950,687	3,802,000	3,801,500	3,610,984	3,886,569	3,616,581
Local Taxes	9,593,181	9,535,046	9,175,866	8,916,873	8,928,098	8,843,190	8,815,313	8,733,000	8,612,938	8,434,016	8,189,331	7,911,487
Total Budget Revenues	15,612,938	16,372,301	14,303,068	13,408,797	13,348,095	13,130,000	12,766,000	12,535,000	12,414,438	12,045,000	12,075,900	11,600,000
State Aid	1,146,141	1,081,640	1,025,916	1,025,916	1,030,549	1,025,916	1,025,916	1,025,916				
Total budget	15,612,938	16,372,301	14,303,068	13,408,797	13,348,095	13,130,000	12,766,000	12,535,000				
% State Aid to Total Budget	7.34%	6.61%	7.17%	7.65%	7.72%	7.81%	8.04%	8.18%				
Fund Balance Anticipated	2,291,671	2,045,169	1,869,200	1,425,200	1,304,500	1,320,000	1,096,000	897,000	810,876	776,048	841,461	776,000
% F/Bal to Total budget	0.15	0.12	0.13	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.09	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.07	0.07
Fund Balance 1/1	4,451,632	3,778,446	3,476,303	2,922,773	2,832,783	2,848,266	2,482,557	2,260,302	1,504,223	1,498,339	1,563,752	1,542,318
Fund balance Anticipated	<u>2,291,671</u>	2,045,169	1,869,200	1,425,200	1,364,500	1,320,000	1,086,000	897,000	810,876	776,048	841,461	776,000
F/Balance after Budget Intro	2,159,961	1,733,277	1,607,103	1,497,573	1,468,283	1,528,266	1,386,557	1,363,302	693,347	722,291	722,291	766,318
Statutory access to F/Bal	<u>2,718,355</u>	2,171,343	1,978,730	1,454,490	1,304,517	1,462,631	1,119,255	1,566,955	761,932	776,048	797,434	
Fund Balance 12/31		4,451,632	3,778,446	3,476,303	2,922,773	2,832,783	2,849,186	2,482,557	2,260,302	1,504,223	1,498,339	1,563,752
					add 160,000 used	2,849,188	2,849,188					
					2020 Coronavirus	-922	-922					
						-922	-922					
						2,848,266	2,848,266					
						ADJ 1-1-19	ADJ 1-1-19					
						Balance	Balance					



CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR 2024



Town of Newton 2024 General Capital Improvement Program					
Dept.	Project	Cost	Town CIF	Other Funds	Debt Authorized
CIF	Capital Improvement Fund	\$437,299.00	\$437,299.00		
DPW/Eng.	Boardwalk Connector Memory Park	\$889,000.00		\$749,000.00	\$140,000.00
DPW/Eng.	Resurfacing Douma Dr., Douma Ct., Valleyview Ct., Babbit Court	\$210,000.00		\$158,360.00	\$51,640.00
DPW/Eng.	Town Hall HVAC	\$350,000.00			\$350,000.00
Fire	Firehouse No. 1 Renovations - Base Bid and Alt. 1	\$800,000.00			\$800,000.00
Fire	Utility Truck	\$95,000.00			\$95,000.00
OEM	Integrated Comm. System (ICS) Hardware Upgrades	\$125,000.00			\$125,000.00
	Totals	\$2,906,299.00	\$437,299.00	\$907,360.00	\$1,561,640.00



CIF PROJECTS FOR 2024



2024	2024 PROJECTS (incl. CIF Downpayment)	
Department	Item	Amount
CIF	Downpayment for Capital Projects	\$109,299
Community Development/Recreation	Memory Park Electrical/Pool Improvements	\$41,000
DPW	Liberty Street Crosswalks	\$40,000
DPW	Mower	\$50,000
Manager	Munic. Buildings/Facilities Improvements/Upgrades/Renovations/Furniture/Equipment	\$20,000
Planning	Plan Endorsement Renewal	\$33,000
Police	Cameras/Video Recorders	\$48,000
Police	Drone	\$16,000
Police	Detective Bureau Vehicle	\$65,000
Redevelopment	Redevelopment	\$15,000
TOTAL:		\$437,299



W/S BUDGET



The Town maintains independent financial records for the Water and Sewer fund. Both functions are supported by customer billings and do not require property tax revenues to meet financial obligations. The Water and Sewer budget is proposed at \$6,225,691 for the 2024 year. The Water and Sewer budget provides service to 2,768 accounts. The current rate structure needs to be revised in 2024 in order for the Town to properly maintain both current staffing and operations and fulfill its obligations for the health, safety, and welfare of residents with proper long-term capital project implementation.



REVENUE COMPARISON – W/S



WATER SEWER REVENUE COMPARISON (2013 - 2024)												
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Fund Balance	1,265,000	614,900	643,262	593,703	845,972	407,250	407,000	330,000	303,000	357,767	353,424	438,274
Water & Sewer Rents		4,079,001	4,061,838	4,068,984	4,016,305	3,999,848	4,001,546	3,539,843	3,552,781	3,553,500	3,566,198	3,709,920
Additional Rents	4,388,338							442,000				
Miscellaneous	395,517	253,466	150,133	74,400	43,000	55,000	52,820	55,820	52,808	51,075	47,200	44,470
W/S Capital FB & Reserves	172,246		13,500	33,200	20,107	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
W/S Reserve for Debt Svc												13,668
W/S Insurance Emerg Fundg												
Interest & Costs on Assessments	4,590	5,108	5,615	11,342	12,138	12,902	13,634	14,337	15,011	15,658	16,278	16,918
W/S Reserves for Cap Impr					10,000							
Total W/S Utility Revenues	6,225,691	4,952,475	4,874,348	4,781,629	4,947,522	4,525,000	4,525,000	4,432,000	3,973,600	4,028,000	4,033,100	4,223,250
Fund Balance Anticipated	1,265,000	614,900	643,262	593,703	845,972	407,250	407,000	330,000	303,000	357,767	353,424	438,274
% F/Bal to Total budget **	0.11	0.12	0.13	0.12	0.17	0.09	0.09	0.07	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.10
Fund Balance 1/1	3,620,740	2,500,785	2,150,040	2,064,276	2,260,713	1,300,236	1,070,766	886,950	842,620	897,441	779,506	931,674
Fund balance Anticipated	1,265,000	614,900	643,262	593,703	845,972	407,250	407,000	330,000	303,000	357,767	353,424	438,274
F/Bal after Budget intro	2,355,740	1,885,885	1,506,778	1,470,573	1,414,741	892,986	663,766	556,950	539,620	539,674	426,082	493,400
Statutory excess to F/Bal	1,734,855	994,007	679,467	679,467	649,535	1,064,685	636,470	513,816	347,330	302,946	471,359	266,817
Fund Balance 12/31		3,620,740	2,500,785	2,150,040	2,064,276	1,957,671	1,300,236	1,070,766	886,950	842,620	897,441	780,217
** FB - RBC's	600,000											
** FB	665,000											
	1,265,000											



CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR 2024 W/S



2024 W/S Capital Improvement Program					
Dept./Project	Cost	W/S CIF	Other Funds	Debt Authorized	Future
W/S Capital Improvement Fund	\$117,291.00	\$117,291.00			
W/S Capital Outlay	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00			
W/S Truck Replacements (S)	\$160,000.00	\$160,000.00			
W/S Spare Pumps and Motors (S)	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00			
W/S TTHM/HAA5 Study and Mitigation (PCI)	\$150,000.00		\$100,000.00	\$50,000.00	
W/S Two New Sweepers/One New Sewer Jet Vac	\$2,000,000.00			\$2,000,000.00	
W/S Hydrant and Valve Replacement/Repair	\$126,000.00		\$74,000.00	\$52,000.00	
W/S Lead Service Lines (HPA)	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00			
W/S Dam Site #3 Structural Sill	\$100,000.00				\$100,000.00
W/S Sewer Line Upgrades (S) (PCI)	\$250,000.00			\$250,000.00	
W/S First Stage Check Valves Sewer Plant (S) (PSS)	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00			
W/S Sparta Glen - Montana Crossing Improvements (W)	\$300,000.00		\$115,000.00		\$185,000.00
W/S Lower Glen Lake Blow Off Valve (W)	\$300,000.00		\$74,000.00	\$226,000.00	
W/S Watermain Upgrades - Mason Avenue (HPA)	\$350,000.00			\$350,000.00	
W/S Cleaning of High Street Tank & Filtration Plant Clear Wells	\$150,000.00		\$150,000.00		
W/S Morris Lake Gatehouse - Pump Sys for Low Lk Level Pumping	\$150,000.00				\$150,000.00
W/S RBC's (S)	\$600,000.00	\$600,000.00			
W/S Replace/Upgrade Valves and Piping Water Treatment Plant (W) (PCI)	\$150,000.00		\$150,000.00		
Totals	\$5,378,291.00	\$1,352,291.00	\$663,000.00	\$2,928,000.00	\$435,000.00



CONCLUSION



RENEWED COMMITMENT TO EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT, AND LIMITED GOVERNMENT

Now that we have concluded the 2024 budget process, I want to thank all department heads and staff for their invaluable assistance in putting together these important documents. In closing, it is my firm belief the budget appropriations and revenue projections, as contained in the 2024 budget for Newton, will enable the Town to meet the public's demand and need for critical services. Furthermore, the budget is structured as a fiscally responsible document to ensure the financial well-being of our municipal government is preserved.

This 2024 budget as presented will enable the municipal organization to continue mission achievement – achieving the excellence in governance expected by our customers: the taxpayers, businesses, and residents of Newton. Thank you once again for the opportunity to serve the good people of Newton!

Yours for a Better Newton,

Thomas S. Russo, Jr.

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

SECTION 2 - UPON ADOPTION FOR YEAR 2024

RESOLUTION 121-2024

Be it Resolved by the COUNCIL MEMBERS of the TOWN of NEWTON, County of SUSSEX that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of:

- (a) \$ 9,593,181.00 (Item 2 below) for municipal purposes, and
- (b) \$ - (Item 3 below) for school purposes in Type I School Districts only (N.J.S.A. 18A:9-2) to be raised by taxation and,
- (c) \$ - (Item 4 below) to be added to the certificate of amount to be raised by taxation for local school purposes in Type II School Districts only (N.J.S.A. 18A:9-3) and certification to the County Board of Taxation of the following summary of general revenues and appropriations.
- (d) \$ - (Sheet 43) Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Levy
- (e) \$ - (Sheet 44) Arts and Culture Trust Fund Levy
- (f) \$ - (Item 5 Below) Minimum Library Tax

RECORDED VOTE
(Insert last name)

Ayes	Nays	Abstained	
Absent			

SUMMARY OF REVENUES			
1. General Revenues			
Surplus Anticipated	08-108	\$	2,291,671.00
Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated	13-899	\$	3,543,086.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	15-498	\$	785,000.00
2. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES (Item 6(a), Sheet 11)	07-198	\$	9,593,181.00
3. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY:			
Item 6, Sheet 42	07-195	\$	-
Item 6(b), Sheet 11 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-14)	07-191	\$	-
TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY			
\$ -			
4. To Be Added TO THE CERTIFICATE FOR THE AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE II SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY:			
Item 6(b), Sheet 11 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-14)	07-191	\$	-
5. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION MINIMUM LIBRARY TAX	07-192	\$	-
Total Revenues	13-298	\$	15,612,538.00

Mayor Couce opened the budget hearing to the public.

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

Mrs. Teets stated a good job was done by all in presenting the budget.

Mayor Couce stated at a separate meeting, the budget was reviewed line by line.

Upon motion of Mrs. Diglio, to approve **Resolution #121-2024**, seconded by Mrs.

Teets and roll call resulted as follows:

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

COUNCIL MANAGER COMMENTS - None.

DISCUSSION

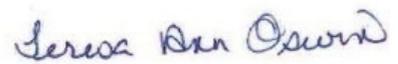
Mr. Russo invited the Town Planner Jessica Caldwell came forward to review a proposed ordinance. Ms. Caldwell explained the proposed ordinance would limit multi-family dwellings to no more than three (3) bedrooms per unit. This limit does not apply to two (2)-family dwellings or duplexes. Also, the proposed ordinance would apply Residential Site Standards (RSIS) to any residential units with three (3) or more bedrooms for parking. A brief discussion ensued with Ms. Caldwell answering all the Council's questions. The Council would like to move forward with introducing the ordinance and sending it to the Planning Board for review.

ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Le Frois took a moment to acknowledge Lily Atkinson in the audience. Lily brought to the Council's attention the need for crosswalks, and they are being budgeted in this year's budget. She is a model on how change can be made.

There being no further business to be conducted, upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Le Frois seconded by Mrs. Diglio and unanimously carried, the Regular meeting was adjourned at 7:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa A. Oswin, RMC
Municipal Clerk