

January 27, 2025

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 Mr. Couce, Mrs. Diglio, and Mayor Le Frois, Teresa A. Oswin, Municipal Clerk, and Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Town Manager. Thomas Ferry, CMFO and Eric M. Bernstein, Esq., Town Attorney, were also present. Mr. Dickson attended via Zoom and Mrs. Teets was excused.

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

Mayor Le Frois made the following declaration "in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this Regular meeting was given to the two newspapers of record and posted on the official bulletin board on January 3, 2025."

PRESENTATIONS/SWEARING-IN

Mayor Le Frois called forth the Officers of the Newton Fire Department.

Mayor Le Frois stated at the recent ceremony for the 92 graduates of the Sussex County Public Training and Academy the keynote speaker stated "*Volunteer firefighting stands as one of the last strongholds of volunteerism in this nation. Demanding exceptional skill, unwavering courage, and a readiness to face profound risks. Service above self is about the firefighters who are all leaders, carrying the responsibility of accepting the badge regardless of rank.*" She thought that encapsulated what this department represents. When she moved to Newton from California and learned our fire department are all volunteers, she thought that was phenomenal and exceptional. In previous terms she has gotten to know some of you and see all you do and know that you are selfishly committed and honorable. We have two (2) or three (3) generations of firefighters, which is awesome. At this time Mayor Le Frois administered the Oath of Office to the following:

Chief of Department - Jason Miller
Deputy Chief - Anthony Perigo
Captain - Chaz Webber
Captain - Joseph Chavarria
Lieutenant – Timony Fitzpatrick
Lieutenant – Christopher Blakely

President - Michael Teets
Vice president - Jeff Diener
Secretary - John Ays

Mayor Le Frois asked Chief Miller to say a few words.

Chief Miller said he is proud of the Department, they respond to over 400 calls a year, day and night. It is a great Department, and he values the great relationship they have with the Council.

Mr. Russo offered congratulations and told them all to be safe! He thanked them all for their dedication, it really speaks to the character of the Town.

Mr. Couce told them all to keep up the good work.

Mrs. Diglio offered congratulations to each and everyone of them and thanked them for their service. The Town is incredibly lucky to have them.

Deputy Mayor Dickson offered congratulations to all and wished them the best of luck. The Town owes them a debt of gratitude for their service.

BREAK - Five (5) minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mrs. Diglio, seconded by Mr. Couce, the minutes for the October 16, 2024, and October 28, 2024 Executive Meetings were unanimously approved as presented.

Upon motion by Mrs. Diglio, seconded by Mr. Couce, the minutes from the December 9, 2024, Regular Meeting and December 20, 2024 Special Meeting were approved as presented. Mr. Dickson abstained on the December 9, 2024 minutes.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

At this time, Mayor LeFrois 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 Le Frois opened the meeting to the public.

Dr. Ludmilla Mecaj raised her hand on Zoom. She offered congratulations to Mr. Couce and Mrs. Teets on their re-election. She hopes they spend taxpayer dollars using common sense and accountability. She was unable to attend the reorganization meeting as it was held on an inconvenient date and time.

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

Mayor Le Frois responded to Dr. Mecaj to advise her the reorganization meeting date and time is dictated by State statute.

COUNCIL & MANAGER REPORTS

Town Manager Russo – nothing to report at this time.

Councilman Couce – nothing to report at this time.

Deputy Mayor Dickson – nothing to report at this time.

Councilmember Diglio – stated plans are moving forward with the St. Patrick's Day Parade to be held on March 8th.

Councilmember Teets – excused.

Mayor Le Frois – she attended the January 15th Recreation meeting, there will be a Valentine's Ice-Cream Social for the Seniors at Liberty Towers on February 13th at 3:30pm. At the Planning Board reorganization meeting Barbara Vrahnos was selected as Chairperson, Gary Marion is the Vice-Chairperson. On January 17th she attended the Intentional Relationships webinar with all the Department Heads, it was highly informative.

Currently there are several vacancies on our Boards and Commissions. If anyone is interested, please visit our website. She offered congratulations to Mr. Russo for being selected as Chairman of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund for the next two (2) years. Lastly, she thanked all the Water/Sewer and DPW crews for their quick and thorough response to our recent watermain breaks. Our infrastructure is so important.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Russo invited Jessica Caldwell-Dykstra, the Town Planner, to discuss the Town's Plan Endorsement renewal.

Ms. Caldwell reviewed the history and process for Plan Endorsement which is currently up for renewal. She gave an outline for the next ten (10) years. It is her recommendation to move forward with the process. It is helpful in receiving grant monies and it increases communication with State agencies, which is beneficial when seeking guidance.

Mayor Le Frois asked if there were any notable changes. Mrs. Caldwell-Dykstra stated our efforts with Sustainable NJ is the main change with should help us a lot.

Mayor Le Frois thanked Mrs. Caldwell-Dykstra for time and efforts and directed Mr. Russo and Ms. Caldwell-Dykstra to move forward with the process.

ORDINANCES

Mayor Le Frois asked Mr. Russo to give a brief description of each ordinance on the agenda.

Mayor Le Frois read aloud the following Ordinance relative to introduction.

ORDINANCE 2025-1

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A LAND DONATION KNOWN AS BLOCK 5.04, LOT 5 (7 CHERRY LANE)

The aforementioned **ORDINANCE** was offered by Mrs. Diglio who moved its introduction, seconded by Mr. Couce, and the roll call resulted as follows:

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the above Ordinance be introduced for the first reading, with a hearing on the same to be held on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 7:00 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

ORDINANCE 2025-2

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE, AND SUPPLEMENT THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF NEWTON, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, CHAPTER 266 OF THE TOWN CODE, ENTITLED "STREETS AND SIDEWALKS," MOST NOTABLY SECTION 266-42, ENTITLED "NOTICES"

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

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the above Ordinance be introduced for the first reading, with a hearing on the same to be held on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 7:00 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

ORDINANCE 2025-3

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE, AND SUPPLEMENT THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF NEWTON, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, CHAPTER 105, ENTITLED "FILMING", MOST NOTABLY SECTION 105-3, ENTITLED "ISSUANCE OF PERMITS" AND SECTION 105-4, ENTITLED "PERFORMANCE OF PERMIT HOLDER"

The aforementioned **ORDINANCE** was offered by Mrs. Diglio who moved its introduction, seconded by Mr. Couce, and the roll call resulted as follows:

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the above Ordinance be introduced for the first reading, with a hearing on the same to be held on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 7:00 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Le Frois 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 #66-2025*

"Resolution Approving the NJ Office of Planning Advocacy's Planning and Implementation Agreement and State Plan Policy Map"

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton as part of its ongoing planning efforts, worked with the New Jersey Department of State, Office of Planning Advocacy to create the Town's Planning and Implementation Agreement and update the State Plan Policy Map; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton desires to enter into a Planning and Implementation Agreement and accept the proposed revisions to the State Plan Policy Map;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Newton that:

Section 1. The Town of Newton hereby authorizes the Planning and Implementation Agreement and accepts the State Plan Policy Map both prepared by the Office of Planning Advocacy.

Section 2. The appropriate municipal officials, including the Mayor, Town Manager, Town Clerk, and Town Planner are hereby authorized to take any and all action necessary to implement the Planning and Implementation Agreement.

RESOLUTION #67-2025*

“Approval of the Extension of a Contract with Schmidt’s Wholesale Water Meter Supply Bid 3-2022”

WHEREAS, there is a need for water meter supplies in the Town of Newton; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton approved through Resolution #121-2022 a two (2) year contract awarded to Schmidt’s Wholesale of Monticello, N.Y.; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law at N.J.S.A. 40A:11-15 allows for two (2), one (1) year extensions to bid contracts, or one (1), two (2) year extension to bid contracts; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town to extend the bid contract awarded through Resolution #121-2022 for an additional one (1) year under the tenets as found within Bid 3-2022; and

WHEREAS, the Newton Chief Municipal Financial Officer has certified funds will be available as per the attached certification;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton, in the County of Sussex as follows:

Schmidt’s Wholesale is authorized to enter a one (1) year contract extension from the date of this authorization to provide for water meter supply services in accordance with the auspices as contractually set forth within Bid 3-2022.

RESOLUTION #68-2025*

“Authorizing a Municipal Lien Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.14 and Sections 213-2 and 299-7 for Property Maintenance Performed by the Town of Newton on Property Known as 131 Main Street, also known as Block 14.01, Lot 17”

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton (“Town”) Code Chapters 213 and 299 requires a property owner or occupant to maintain and repair property owned and/or occupied in the Town; and

WHEREAS, as to the exterior of the property, including cutting of grass, brush and weeds, N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.13 provides that, if the property owner refuses or neglects the same, after ten (10) calendar days’ notice, the Town can perform itself and/or contract outside for the maintenance; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.14 then provides that, after the Town has the property maintained, the cost of the maintenance can be imposed as a lien on the property; and

WHEREAS, after providing such notice, the property owner and creditor of 131 Main Street, also known as Block 14.01, Lot 17 (the “Property”) has failed and/or refused

to maintain the Property, including periodic mowing and clearing of brush and weeds, as well as trees, tree limbs, etc.; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton Public Works Department has performed required maintenance on the Property and has certified the cost of the maintenance to the Mayor and Town Council, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.14 and Newton Town Code sections 213-2 and 299-7; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council have reviewed the certified cost of the required maintenance of the Property to date by the Public Works Department and finds the certified cost to be reasonable and correct; and

WHEREAS, maintenance on the Property by the Town of Newton Public Works Department will continue, as necessary, on a periodic basis as required until the Property is sold, or an owner or occupant otherwise performs the proper maintenance of the Property; and

WHEREAS, if necessary, the Town of Newton Public Works Department will continue to certify the cost of said continued maintenance of the Property to the Mayor and Town Council, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.14 and Sections 213-2 and 299-7 of the Town Code;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Newton, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that a municipal lien is hereby created, authorized, and imposed on the Property identified as 131 Main Street, also known as Block 14.01, Lot 17 in the total certified amount of \$17,250.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the amount of said lien, \$17,250.00, as certified to the Mayor and Town Council pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.14 and Sections 213-2 and 299-7 of the Town Code shall become a lien on the Property and shall be added to and become and form part of the taxes next to be assessed and levied upon the Property, the same to bear interest at the same rate as taxes and shall be collected and enforced by the same officers and in the same manner as taxes.

/s/ Teresa A. Oswin
Teresa A. Oswin, RMC
Municipal Clerk

/s/ Helen R. Le Frois
Helen R. Le Frois, Mayor
Town of Newton

RESOLUTION #69-2025*

“Resolution for Sign, Printing, and Logo Services in a Required Disclosure Contract to Gravity Design Works Inc.”

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton has a need for printing and logo design services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is for calendar year 2025; and

WHEREAS, Gravity Design Works Inc., 262 Spring St., Newton, N.J. 07860, has exceeded in the aggregate the pay to play threshold of \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, Gravity Design Works Inc. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that the vendor 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 the vendor from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Newton authorizes Gravity Design Works Inc., 262 Spring St., Newton, N.J. 07860, as a pay to play vendor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be filed in the Municipal Clerk's office.

RESOLUTION #70-2025*

“Resolution Approving Vacation & Sick Leave Time Payout for Steven VanNieuwland”

WHEREAS, Steven VanNieuwland, Police Chief, with the Newton Police Department, retires effective January 31, 2025, and is entitled to payout for unused and accrued vacation and sick leave time pursuant to applicable law, Town ordinances, Steven VanNieuwland’s Employment Agreement, and the Town of Newton Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual and Employee Handbook;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Council authorizes the following payout for unused and vacation & sick leave, and accumulated compensatory time to Steven VanNieuwland as follows:

<u>EMPLOYEE</u>	<u>RETIREMENT DATE</u>	<u>PAYOUT</u>
TOTAL		
Steven VanNieuwland	January 31, 2025	\$88,534.75

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appropriate Town employees are hereby authorized to make the payments set forth above, with any required revisions to the payout amounts.

RESOLUTION #71-2025*

“Resolution Establishing a Green Team Advisory Committee”

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Newton strives to save tax dollars, assure clean air and water, and to foster a community that is sustainable economically, environmentally, and socially; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Newton wishes to build a model of government which benefits our residents now and far into the future with green community initiatives which are easy to replicate and affordable to implement; and

WHEREAS, in an attempt to focus attention on “green” issues, the Town Council wishes to establish a Green Team Advisory Committee (GTAC); and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Newton wants to begin the process of focusing on “green” issues by starting with Sustainable Jersey Certification and the preparation of the Community Energy Plan; and

WHEREAS, reducing energy consumption and maximizing energy efficiency and conservation will be considered as the Town moves to do their share to lessen the environmental impact of its operations;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that we do hereby establish a Green Team Advisory Committee consisting of members who shall be residents and/or employees of the Town of Newton, appointed annually through Resolution, but whose initial term of appointment shall be through December 31, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the Mission, Goals, and Objectives for the GTAC through December 31, 2025 are established as follows:

Mission

The Newton Town Green Team Advisory Council will advise the Town Council on ways to improve municipal operations with “Green” initiatives which are economically and environmentally sound. These initiatives will be researched and evaluated through the preparation of a Community Energy Plan.

Goals

1. Prepare and submit a Community Energy Plan and recommendations to the Town Council by October 31, 2025 to include:
 - a. An audit of energy consumption in the Town;
 - b. A consolidated list of the municipality’s past energy accomplishments;
 - c. A clear, agreed-upon set of energy initiatives to be implemented in the next 3-5 years; and
 - d. Information on funding opportunities to complete these initiatives.
2. Achieve, at minimum, Bronze-level Sustainable Jersey Certification.

Objectives

1. Collaborate with Town employees, service providers, and other governmental agencies to share resource information and ideas consistent with the Mission of the GTAC.
2. Encourage participation of all employees to solicit ideas on green initiatives.
3. Research and analyze green initiatives which make practical environmental and financial sense.
4. Develop strategies for sustainable green initiatives in municipal operations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the following persons are hereby appointed to the GTAC and are eligible to serve until replaced though an updated resolution or ordinance:

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	POSITION	REPRESENTATIVE
Thomas S.	Russo, Jr.	Town Manager	Administration
Jessica	Caldwell	Town Planner	Planning/Zoning
Helen	Le Frois	Mayor	Governing Body
Matthew	Dickson	Deputy Mayor	Governing Body
Kenneth	Jaekel	DPW Supervisor	DPW/Utility Adv. Board
Adam	Vough	Asst. DPW Supervisor	DPW
Kimberly	Williams	Comm. Dev. Dir.	Community Development and Econ. Dev. Comm.
Barbara	Vrahnos	PB Chairperson	Planning Board
Teresa	Oswin	Mun. Clerk/Dep. Town Manager	Administration

RESOLUTION #72-2025*

“Resolution to Accept the Proposed ADA Ramps & Crosswalks at Liberty Street and Linwood Ave./Annex Intersection Project as Final and Complete”

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2024, the Newton Town Council adopted Resolution #204-2024, awarding the Proposed ADA Ramps & Crosswalks at Liberty Street and Linwood Ave./Annex Intersection Project to ADS Contracting LLC, 52 Crooks Cross Road, Pittstown, NJ in the amount of \$34,187.35; and

WHEREAS, Harold E. Pellow from Harold E. Pellow & Associates, Inc. in his memo dated January 16, 2025, confirms that all work has been completed by the contractor, ADS Contractors LLC and the final paperwork be processed and the project be accepted as final and complete by the Town Council so the contractor can obtain their maintenance bond;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that it hereby accepts the Proposed ADA Ramps & Crosswalks at Liberty Street and Linwood Ave./Annex Intersection Project as Final and Complete based on the recommendation of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, Inc., so the final paperwork can be completed and the contractor can obtain their maintenance bond.

RESOLUTION #73-2025*

“Resolution Regarding the Town of Newton’s Present and Prospective Fair Share Affordable Housing Obligations for the Fourth (4th) Round”

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2024, an Amendment to the Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq. was signed into law (“Amended FHA”); and

WHEREAS, the Amended FHA requires the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (“DCA”) to determine non-binding estimates of fair share obligations on or before October 20, 2024; and

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2024, the DCA issued a report entitled “Affordable Housing Obligations for 2025-2035 (Fourth Round) Methodology and Background” (“DCA Report”), wherein the DCA reported its estimate of the obligations for all municipalities based upon its interpretation of the standards set forth in the Amended FHA; and

WHEREAS, the DCA Report calculates the Town of Newton’s (“Town”) Fourth (4th) Round (2025-2035) obligations as follows: a Present Need (Rehabilitation) Obligation of forty-five (45) and a Prospective Need (New Construction) Obligation of seventy-two (72); and

WHEREAS, the Amended FHA provides that the DCA Report is non-binding, thereby inviting municipalities to demonstrate that the Amended FHA would support revised calculations of Fourth (4th) Round affordable housing obligations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Amended FHA, the Town may either accept the determination of its Present and Prospective Need Obligations as calculated by the DCA or make its own determination as to same; and

WHEREAS, the Amended FHA further provides that “all parties shall be entitled to rely upon regulations on municipal credits, adjustments, and compliance mechanisms adopted by COAH unless those regulations are contradicted by statute, including P.L. 2024, c.2, or binding court decisions”. See N.J.S.A. 52:27D-311(m); and

WHEREAS, said COAH regulations authorize municipalities to secure vacant land adjustments, durational adjustments, and other adjustments; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, and after careful consideration in conjunction with the advice and input from its various legal and planning professionals, the Town has determined that it is in its best interest to accept the DCA calculations of the Town’s fair share obligations and commits to its fair share of a Present Need (Rehabilitation) Obligation of forty-five (45) and a Prospective Need (New Construction) Obligation of seventy-two (72), subject to any vacant land, durational, and/or other adjustments that the Town may seek as part of its Housing Element and Fair Share Plan (“HEFSP”) that it subsequently submits in accordance with the Amended FHA; and

WHEREAS, the Town reserves the right to comply with any additional amendments to the FHA that the Legislature may enact; and

WHEREAS, in the event that a third (3rd) party challenges the calculations provided for in this Resolution, the Town reserves the right to take such position as it deems appropriate in response thereto, including that its Fourth (4th) Round Present or Prospective Need Obligations should be lower than as described herein;

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 hereby commits to its fair share of a Present Need (Rehabilitation) Obligation of forty-five (45) and a Prospective Need (New Construction) Obligation of seventy-two (72) as determined by the DCA for the Fourth (4th) Round of affordable housing obligations, subject to any vacant land, durational, and/or other adjustments that the Town may seek as part of its Housing Element and Fair Share Plan (“HEFSP”) that it subsequently submits in accordance with the Amended FHA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town's Affordable Housing Counsel/Town Attorney is hereby directed and authorized to file a declaratory judgment action with the Superior Court of New Jersey, Sussex County no later than forty-eight (48) hours following adoption of this Resolution seeking a compliance certification regarding its fair share affordable housing obligation for the Fourth (4th) Round and that a copy of this Resolution shall be made part of such Court filing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk is further authorized to immediately post a copy of this Resolution on the Town's website.

RESOLUTION #74-2025*

“Resolution Awarding Professional Engineering Services for Sanitary Conveyance System Improvements Phase 1 Sewer Rehabilitation”

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton is in need of engineering services for the project known as Sanitary Conveyance System Improvements Phase I Sewer Rehabilitation for the Town of Newton as a professional service in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(a)(1); and

WHEREAS, Suburban Consulting Engineers, 96 U.S. Highway 206, Suite 101, Flanders, New Jersey 07836, has provided a professional services proposal in the amount of \$7,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to award these professional services and enter into a contract pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(a)(1) as a professional services agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Newton Chief Municipal Financial Officer has certified funds will be available as per the attached certification;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town of Newton, County of Sussex, that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute, and the Municipal Clerk to attest, an agreement between the Town of Newton, and Suburban Consulting Engineers, 96 U.S. Highway 206, Suite 101, Flanders, New Jersey 07836 for professional engineering services for the project known as Sanitary Conveyance System Improvements Phase I Sewer Rehabilitation for the Town of Newton in the amount of \$7,500.00.

RESOLUTION #75-2025*

“Approve 2024 Appropriation Reserve Transfers”

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that the following 2024 appropriation transfers be approved effective this date:

CURRENT FUND 2024 BUDGET RESERVE:

ACCOUNT	TO AMOUNT	ACCOUNT	FROM AMOUNT
Assessment of Taxes – Other Expenses	\$5,000.00	Building and Grounds – Other Expenses	\$6,000.00
Streets and Roads – Other Expenses	\$2,000.00	Vehicle Maintenance – Other Expenses	\$4,000.00
Police Department – Other Expenses	\$1,000.00	Police Department – Salaries and Wages	\$1,000.00
Buildings and Grounds – Other Expenses	\$3,000.00		
TOTAL	\$11,000.00	TOTAL	\$11,000.00

RESOLUTION #76-2025*

“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 2024 and 2025 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.

Check No.	Vendor #	Vendor Name	Amount
12324	1846	- ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	619.18
12325	3753	- ALCOCK KATHERINE	31.95
12326	4106	- ALL GAS & WELDING SUPPLY CO., INC.	64.70
12327	3897	- AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	452.43
12328	32	- B & R UNIFORM, INC.	1,015.80
12329	3251	- BADGER METER, INC.	665.76
12330	3355	- BRAEN STONE SPARTA	5,503.50
12331	300	- BRIGHTSPEED	3,387.80
12332	4905	- CARDOZA WASTE PARTS NATION	15,430.00
12333	4706	- CARLUCCI, MICHAEL	3,600.41
12334	4911	- CHARLES CARDISH	59.93
12335	4871	- CONCINNATE LLC.	750.00
12336	1632	- COOPER ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO.	154.26
12337	1425	- COUNTY OF SUSSEX	8.31
12338	178	- COUNTY OF SUSSEX	133.27
12339	176	- COUNTY OF SUSSEX	1,692.18
12340	1425	- COUNTY OF SUSSEX	4,064.10
12341	178	- COUNTY OF SUSSEX	81,823.38
12342	176	- COUNTY OF SUSSEX	1,054,601.49
12343	4500	- CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN SPRINGS	154.80
12344	4827	- CTS LANGUAGE LINK	8.04
12345	1736	- DANFORTH'S TRAILER & AUTO, INC	256.38
12346	2386	- DOMINICK'S PIZZA LLC	186.80
12347	4654	- EDMUNDS GOVTECH, INC.	11,752.65
12348	106	- ELIZABETHTOWN GAS	6,106.32
12349	4385	- ERIC M. BERNSTEIN & ASSOCIATES, LLC.	49.36
12350	4653	- FATHER JOHNS	100.00
12351	2525	- FIREFIGHTER ONE, LLC.	2,772.27
12352	4567	- FREDON WELDING & IRON WORKS INC	2,150.00
12353	2626	- GENERAL CODE, LLC	1,195.00
12354	4506	- GLENN C KIENZ	800.00
12355	4398	- GLOBAL RECYCLING SOLUTIONS LLC	1,270.33
12356	3804	- HAYDEE BALLESTER	150.00
12357	230	- HAYEK'S MARKET INC.	167.46
12358	1712	- HOLZHAUER & HOLENSTEIN, LLC	6,100.00
12359	1866	- HOME DEPOT, INC.	31.89
12360	2140	- HYDRO TECHNOLOGY, LLC.	600.00
12361	3235	- J. CALDWELL & ASSOCIATES, LLC.	11,572.50
12362	113	- JCP&L	23,855.89
12363	2618	- JMC ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC.	1,827.50
12364	4902	- JONES LANG LASALLE AMERICAS INC	8,850.00
12365	266	- LAFAYETTE AUTO PARTS	7.56
12366	4658	- LAW OFFICE OF ORLANDO R RODRIGUEZ, LLC.	1,208.33
12367	4668	- LAW OFFICES OF CHIRAG D. MEHTA, LLC.	2,770.81
12368	2300	- LOWE'S, INC.	189.05
12369	1566	- MAIN POOL & CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC.	3,705.00
12370	4898	- MINER, LTD	5,350.00
12371	409	- MINISINK PRESS INC	710.00
12372	53	- MONTAGUE TOOL & SUPPLY, INC.	3,201.28

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12373	2508	- MORRIS COUNTY COOP	1,100.00
12374	2567	- MUNICIPAL RECORD SERVICE	776.00
12375	1290	- MUNIDEX, INC.	2,275.00
12376	4722	- NATIONAL HIGHWAY PRODUCTS, INC.	5,550.90
12377	170	- NEWTON BOARD OF EDUCATION	1,418,564.92
12378	2456	- NIELSEN FORD	1,779.82
12379	2701	- NJLM	787.00
12380	1207	- NJMMA	300.00
12381	4350	- NW FINANCIAL GROUP LLC	1,330.00
12382	2882	- ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC.	97.23
12383	4656	- PAULUS, SOKOLOWSKI & SARTOR LLC	24,037.91
12384	64	- PELLOW, HAROLD & ASSO, INC.	5,933.63
12385	64	- PELLOW, HAROLD & ASSO, INC.	23,619.07
12386	2788	- PENTELEDATA	319.90
12387	3435	- PRIME LUBE, INC.	647.70
12388	4126	- PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING INC.	24,545.00
12389	4907	- PROPRINT GRAPHIXS LLC	240.00
12390	4273	- QUADIENT INC.	486.00
12391	39	- QUILL CORPORATION	432.71
12392	251	- R.S. PHILLIPS STEEL LLC	1,212.44
12393	2478	- RACHLES/MICHELE'S OIL COMPANY, INC.	5,164.35
12394	401	- REGISTRAR'S ASSO OF NEW JERSEY	75.00
12395	2860	- RUTGERS, CENTER FOR GOVERNMENT SERV	900.00
12396	61	- S K OFFICE SUPPLY INC.	190.00
12397	4868	- SCHMITZ SAFE & LOCK LLC	6,989.40
12398	4830	- SEARCH GEEK SOLUTIONS LLC	1,416.67
12399	3134	- SHOP RITE, INC.	104.22
12400	316	- SPARTA TOWNSHIP TAX COLLECTOR	18,226.75
12401	2257	- STAPLES	97.99
12402	4144	- SUBURBAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.	3,332.82
12403	2056	- SUBURBAN PROPANE, LP.	11,497.62
12404	1215	- SUSSEX & WARREN TAX COLL	160.00
12405	2561	- SUSSEX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	1,220.00
12406	1029	- SUSSEX COUNTY CLERK'S ASSN	150.00
12407	3603	- SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	1,000.00
12408	130	- SUSSEX COUNTY P & H, INC.	334.00
12409	3392	- TAP INTO, LLC	2,100.00
12410	4903	- TAYLOR COMMUNICATIONS	895.92
12411	2479	- TAYLOR OIL CO., INC.	4,960.42
12412	3404	- TEAM LIFE, INC.	618.00
12413	3851	- THE CANNING GROUP, LLC.	750.00
12414	4908	- TRANQUILITY VETERINARY CLINIC	3,000.00
12415	4013	- TRANSUNION ALTERNATIVE RISK & DATA,	150.00
12416	293	- TREASURER, PETTY CASH FUND	250.00
12417	367	- TREASURER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY	250.00
12418	292	- TREASURER, WATER & SEWER PETTY CASH	50.00
12419	4767	- TROJAN TECHNOLOGIES CORP	5,303.86
12420	4130	- UNITED FIRE PROTECTION CORP.	795.00
12421	4617	- VALLEY MEDICAL GROUP	150.00
12422	1280	- VERIZON WIRELESS, INC.	2,118.72
12423	4904	- VIKING TERMITE & PEST CONTROL, LLC.	772.00
12424	2635	- W.B. MASON, INC.	804.66
12425	1500	- WALMART	67.72
12426	4815	- WELDON QUARY CO., LLC.	8,038.48
12427	804	- WEST CHESTER MACHINERY	540.32
12428	4822	- WILDFLOWERS OF SUSSEX COUNTY	85.00
12429	3726	- WITMER PUBLIC SAFETY GROUP, INC.	156.32
12430	4909	- ZAPPA JARED	140.10
TOTAL			2,868,048.24

Deputy Mayor Dickson made a motion to approve the **COMBINED RESOLUTIONS of the Consent Agenda**, and Mr. Couce seconded the motion, and a roll call resulted as follows:

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Le Frois opened the meeting to the public.

Margaret Baldini raised her hand on Zoom. She questioned the high payout for retiring officers.

Dr. Ludmilla Mecaj raised her hand on Zoom. She stated she felt the amount of the lien in Resolution 68-2025 is very high, she wanted to know how it was calculated.

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

COUNCIL MANAGER COMMENTS

Mr. Russo responded to Ms. Baldini by stating the payout is governed by contract. He responded to Dr. Mecaj, explaining the amount is from an itemized bill for time and material the DPW used, and it is certified.

Mr. Couce made a note saying he believed there is legislation for those hired after 2010 to cap out the amount of a retirement payout for sick leave to not exceed \$15,000. Mr. Bernstein agreed.

Mr. Russo asked for guidance from the Council on when the Budget Meeting can be held. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Diglio and seconded by Mr. Couce to hold a special Budget meeting beginning at 5:00pm on Monday, February 10, 2025, if needed it will continue at approximately 8:00pm at the conclusion of the regular Town Council meeting. A roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

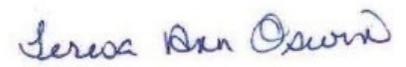
Mr. Russo will meet with Deputy Mayor Dickson to discuss the budget as he is not available at 5:00pm on February 10, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be conducted, upon a motion by Mrs. Diglio seconded by Mr. Couce and unanimously carried, the Regular meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Teresa A. Oswin". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Teresa A. Oswin, RMC
Municipal Clerk