

June 2, 2008

The regular work session meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Newton was held on the above date at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mr. Elvidge, Mr. Ricciardo, Mr. Storm, Mayor Unhoch and Town Manager, Eileen Kithcart. Mr. Diglio was excused.

Mayor Unhoch the following declaration that “in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this work session meeting was given to the two newspapers of record and posted on the official bulletin board on December 26, 2007”.

ELIZABETHTOWN GAS

Mr. Ricky Hardin, Regional Manager NW Jersey of Elizabethtown Gas, Mr. Michael Redding and other representatives were present to address their Liquefied Natural Gas Injection Operation to be performed on Diller Avenue. Mr. Ricky Hardin, Regional Manager

Police Chief John Tomasula, Rick Straway, DPW Foreman and Joe Inga, on behalf of the Newton Fire Department were also present.

Mr. Hardin explained the entire process to the governing body and several questions were addressed by the representatives. This project should take a total of 10 days to complete.

Ms. Kithcart outlined in a letter to Mr. Hardin some mandatory proactive steps the Town is requesting due to the sensitive nature of this operation and for the protection of Newton’s citizens.

Ms. Kithcart requested a response to her letter dated May 28, 2008, as well as an official notification regarding the start date of June 16th. Mr. Hardin insured a letter would be submitted.

VALLEY VIEW NURSING HOME

The governing body reviewed the letter submitted by Lucas & Gaus regarding the lack of parking spaces for their employees. Valley View Care

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Center is requesting permission for Valley View Care Center employees to park in the parking lot at Summit Avenue Park. After a brief discussion, Council advised that the Park property is designated as “Green Acres” and subsequently the Town must abide by strict guidelines for permitted uses, which are for recreational purposes only. While the Council sympathizes with the issue of limited parking available, they are unable to assist with a solution.

RECOGNITION FOR PARADE

Ms. Kithcart and the Town Council acknowledged Mr. Larry Pryduluk of Lawrence Video for the fantastic job of coordinating the Memorial Day Parade. Council will recognize Mr. Pryduluk at a future Council meeting.

WATER FILTRATION PLANT OPEN HOUSE

Ms. Kithcart advised Council that the Utility Board is hosting an Open House, as well as their July Regular Meeting at the Water Filtration Plant on July 15th from 4 – 7 p.m. The public is invited to view the filtration plant. Council will advise of their schedule.

REORGANIZATION / DINNER

The Town Council addressed the annual reorganization meeting followed by dinner. As tradition has it, the incoming Mayor, Mr. Ricciardo, chose the restaurant and addressed the guests he would like invited. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 1, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

MAIN STREET BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ms. Kithcart advised of the reorganization of the Board of Directors and Mr. Ricciardo agreed to sit as the incoming Mayor. Mr. Ricciardo suggested that Mrs. LeFrois also sit on the board in order to become familiar with the group. It was noted that Mrs. Becker already sits on a few of the ‘teams’ of Main Street.

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UPDATE WITH CD DIRECTOR:

Due to Mrs. Millikin absence, Ms. Kithcart gave the following updates.

MASTER PLAN SCHEDULE

Ms. Kithcart advised that the public hearing and adoption of the Master Plan will be held on July 30, 2008. The Council will gave a draft on Wednesday, June 4th.

WATERLINE

Ms. Kithcart advised the waterline project is still on target and the completion should be on June 9th. Still waiting for 33 Mill Street (highrise) to tie into our waterline. The repaving of Mill and Trinity Street should be the week of July 4th.

COAH

Ms. Kithcart addressed the letter received today, June 2, 2008, from Council on Affordable Housing (COAH). The letter outlined the proposed amendments to the regulations of COAH , as well as the revised regulations, effective June 2, 2008.

After a brief discussion, the Council directed Ms. Kithcart to reach out to Mr. Eric Snyder, County Planner, to review the status of where the county is on this subject. The Council expressed their strong opposition to these new regulations and are willing to host the “fight” along with all other municipalities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion of Mr. Storm, seconded by Mr. Ricciardo and carried, the Town Council went into executive session at 8:01 p.m.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Newton (hereinafter referred to as the “Town Council”), convened a meeting in full compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:4-

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12, and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows a public body to enter executive session during a public meeting to discuss certain matters, and

WHEREAS, it has become clear to the Town Council that there is a need to enter executive session to discuss one or more of the exceptions to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, as set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, and

WHEREAS, this work session meeting of the Town Council will not reconvene;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Newton that it will enter executive session to discuss issues related to personnel and litigation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the discussion conducted in executive session by the Newton Town Council shall be disclosed to the public as follows:

PERSONNEL

The Governing Body recommended a Special Meeting of the Newton Town Council on Tuesday, June 17, 2008 at 5:30 pm to discuss personnel.

Upon motion of Mr. Ricciardo, seconded by Mr. Storm and carried, the Town Council left executive session at 8:05 p.m.

Mayor Unhoch declared the meeting opened to the public.

There being no one from the public to be heard, upon motion of Mr. Ricciardo, seconded by Mr. Storm and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine A. Read, RMC
Municipal Clerk