

**Town of Newton**  
**Economic Development Commission**  
**September 17, 2019**

Kimberly Williams called the meeting to order at 6:45pm. Attendees were Rachel Bucci and Rich Krasnomowitz.

Absent were Kevin Prendergast, Jacqueline Butterfield, Ryan Stapel, Vicki Hall, Dan Hayek and Xavier Izquierdo.

Councilman Jason Schlaffer was absent as well.

Kimberly Williams served as secretary.  
There were no guests.

Kimberly Williams stated that the Open Public Meeting Act had been complied with.

Minutes from January 15, March 12, May 14 and July 9th were not accepted as or because there was not a quorum.

**Old Business**

Kimberly Williams spoke:

1. G & H Service at 121 Water St. has sold to a developer; however, there has not been a deed filed and there has not been plans submitted; so, to expect movement in 2020.
2. The Armory project on South Park Drive is still on-going. Engineers have been on site multiple days. There is no end date set.
3. (McQuire/SCCC) The Community College continues to lease the McGuire property on Main St. for their *Auto Repair* program and they are in discussions regarding adding a Culinary program. The College plans to purchase the property. No formal plans have been filed but project is still moving forward.
4. Clayton Square is still working on the COAH building.
5. Thorlabs has received permits for interior work on the Camp Iliff building. No other permits have been received/issued.
6. Teyma Group continues to work on 185 Spring Street, They are proposing a coffee shop in the street level space. They still need to go through Historic and Zoning before construction permits are filed.
7. Atlantic Health Ambulance building at 200 High St. had their ribbon cutting on September 10<sup>th</sup>. The ceremony was very well attended.
8. Mr. Occhifinto on Hicks Ave. is continuing with building 2 warehouses. This project is moving very slowly and inspections have not been scheduled.
9. Kwest Properties is still pursuing plans to build a 4 story building on Spring Street once they overcome multiple obstacles.
10. SCCC is moving forward on their expansion of the performing arts center.
11. Planet Networks is installing fiber though out the Town. They have been in the police department doing work. It has been reported that the services is 10 times faster.

12. Ryan Homes is still interested in 9 Hicks Ave. They have visited twice to discuss building reasonable priced townhomes.
13. 15 E. Clinton Street which is owned by JCP&L continues to conduct environmental work. The remediation should conclude in May 2020.

### **New Business**

Kimberly Williams states that CBD of Newton should be opening on October 1<sup>st</sup> at 211 Spring St. They will be selling pre-packaged items.

Green Cart Catering opened at 188 Spring St. They are a catering company and are considering be opened for lunches in the future.

Jersey's Best Barber Shop will be opening on December 1<sup>st</sup> at 180 Spring St. They have an additional location in Dover.

Parking Authority is preparing to submit an offer to the owners of 4 Union Place. The property would be used for much needed parking.

### **Kimberly Williams gave her Community Update:**

The two outdoor concerts were held at the Community College. Thorlabs was the main sponsor. The available dates from the College were July 13 and August 24 and the weather was perfect for both dates. Cliffhanger Productions had been hired to find the bands. Food trucks may be included for 2020.

The 2 family movies nights were held on July 26 and August 9. They were scheduled rain or shine however; the weather was perfect on both days.

August 2 – 4 was the Outdoor Sales event. There were 75 garage sale applications and multiple merchants/businesses on Spring St were involved. It was reported to be better for some merchants than others.

October 13<sup>th</sup> will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Festival and Classic Car Show. The cars will be on display in a closed municipal lot #4. Vendor money will go directly to the GNCC to benefit their scholarship fund. There are more registered vendors for 2019 than 2018. There will be a full band on Spring St. and Moran St.

October 31<sup>st</sup> will be the Annual Halloween Parade on Spring St. Trunk or Treat participants are needed. The Fire Department will be giving out cash for the costume winners.

November 30<sup>th</sup> will be the Holiday Parade and Small Business Saturday. Spring Street will be closed until 2pm in order to celebrate Small Business Saturday. Carolers and other holiday activities are being planned.

KKPR was hired to conduct 4 Business Videos. They visited 4 businesses that were chosen at random for a marketing video. The video will be used on social media and the website to promote

businesses and to gain awareness that opening a business in Newton is easy! The videos will be release one per month until the end of the year.

Sherri Kaylani from Code Enforcement is still working on her Social Media Influencer program.

### **Discussion**

Rich Krasnomowitz commented on the Outdoor Concerts. He would like to see the shows be conducted from 7pm – 9:30pm. He has been to other towns and the time frame seems to be very successful. He also suggested that we have a concert on Spring Street. He would like to see music on both ends of the street for the two special events. He suggested using “his” alley for traffic access.

### **No further discussion**

Motion to adjourn at 8:03pm pm was made by Mr. Krasnomowitz and seconded by Ms. Bucci. Motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2019

Respectfully submitted By Kimberly Williams