

Council Work Session
January 8, 2025
Borough Hall

The regular monthly Work Session of Newtown Borough Council was called to order at 5:45 P.M. on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. President Heinz asked those in attendance to join her in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Councilors Heinz, Foley, Phillips, Tognini; Manager Totaro; Solicitor Heleniak; Engineer Fountain; Mayor Burke; Chief Sabath
Remote: Councilors Bauman & Woldorf

President Heinz announced that an Executive Session preceded the meeting to discuss litigation.

Public to be Heard

Paul Salvatore, Resident, expressed his disapproval of road conditions following Monday's snowstorm and questioned the decision to halt the removal of snow during the day. Following discussion regarding the criteria for authorizing the salting and plowing during snow events, President Heinz confirmed that Scott's All Seasons remains the borough's contracted service provider.

Engineer's Report – Michele Fountain

Engineer Fountain requested that the Council authorize the Court & State, LLC Land Development Escrow Release of \$363,543.20 at next week's meeting. The Engineer reported that the developer is required to plant four trees in the Borough; the Shade Tree Commission will advise locations.

John Richardson, Engineer and George Asimos, Attorney, representing the applicant for the 110 North State Street Subdivision and Land Development project, provided a detailed update on their Preliminary Plan Application. A lengthy discussion took place, together with the Council and its professionals, regarding the Planning Commission's recommendations, conditions, and waivers for approval. Councilor Woldorf, noting that the development is along Newtown Creek, requested that an easement be included in the agreement which Mr. Asimos stated would be taken into consideration. This topic will be further reviewed at next week's meeting.

Mayor's Report – John Burke - none

Solicitor's Report – Greg Heleniak

Solicitor Heleniak provided an update on the Council Rock Newtown Athletic Association (CRNAA) 5-year Agreement Amendment. A letter detailing the amendment will be sent to the CRNAA Board for approval and then voted on by Council.

Council discussed Ordinance #806 - Mobile Food Vendor (Food Truck) and considered allowing on-street parking for food trucks in residential zoning districts; they discussed the permissible number of food trucks, maximum hours of operation per day, number of applications per year, site plan permit requirements, and more. The Solicitor will draft the revised Ordinance based on feedback and submit it to Councilors Woldorf and Phillips for review by Council in February.

Solicitor Heleniak requested the following motion be made, which allows for an addition into the rear yard with a stipulation that another parking space is added.

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councilor Phillips, seconded by Councilor Tognini, and passed unanimously, to authorize the Solicitor to execute the Stipulation for Agreed Order of Court to settle the Appeal of the Zoning Hearing Board decision for 401 South State Street by Anthony and Julie M. Petsis.

Manager's Report – Craig Totaro

Manager Totaro noted that letters will be sent to the residents on the north side of Frost Lane to inform them that the scope of the sidewalk project has been expanded to include the installation of concrete driveway aprons and curbing where necessary. Council will vote in February to go out for bid. Solicitor Heleniak noted that Sarah Steers, CGBAG Law Associate, can assist with bidding the project.

In response to President Heinz, Manager Totaro will contact PennDOT for an update on the completion of the Centre Ave. bridge repairs and request that the township add cones on Sycamore Street to designate the detour.

President's Report – Emily Heinz

President Heinz reminded Council that annual reports should be submitted by the Committees of Council by the end of March 2025.

Personnel/Committees of Council Appointments – Gina Tognini

Councilor Tognini provided an update on the committee vacancies as follows:

- Human Relations Commission – 4 members
- Planning Commission – 1 member
- Civil Service Commission – 1 alternate
- Zoning Hearing Board – 1 alternate
- Walk Friendly Newtown – 2 members

Old Business - none

Announcements - none

Public to be Heard - none

President Heinz called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 P.M. Councilor Phillips so moved, Councilor Foley seconded, and the motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy S. Musto
Borough Secretary

Attendees

D.J. Pasconi
Don Hayden
Ron Gualtieri
Sarah Steers– Clarke, Gallagher, BAG Law
Warren Woldorf (Zoom)

Jeff Werner
Paul Salvatore
John Richardson
George Asimos
Bob Musto (Zoom)