

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

June 11, 2012

The Town Council meeting was held in the Moose Hill Council Chambers, Town Hall, 268B Mammoth Road, Londonderry, NH.

PRESENT: Chairman, John Farrell; Vice Chair, Tom Dolan; Councilors: Tom Freda, Jim Butler, Joe Green (7:45); Town Manager Dave Caron; Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director Sue Hickey; Executive Assistant Margo Lapietro.

Call to Order

Chairman Farrell opened the meeting at 7:43 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for the men and women fighting for our country.

Public Comment

Dottie Grover, Dog Park Study Chair announced that they had 6 locations being considered for the park, now it is down to 3 locations. After the decision of where the park will be they will begin to study the cost factors. She said they have fundraising ideas and proceeded to list all the parks they visited for ideas and information. The legal issues of a dog park have been researched along with the health issues. She notified the Council that they had 1 resignation from the committee (Dan MacCloud) and have 1 non-participating member (Cynthia Labrecque). She recommended replacing one member with Anita Snow who has not missed a meeting since its inception. They are actively looking for an additional member to replace C. Labrecque. The committee meets the second Tuesday of every month at the Cable Access Center. Councilor Butler asked what size property they were looking at; D. Grover said they don't have a size yet as they are trying to get all other pieces in place like how much money will be needed to prepare the park and fencing. **Councilor Dolan made a motion to appoint A. Snow to the Dog Park Study Committee, second Councilor Green. Council's vote was 5-0-0.**

Chairman Farrell announced that the town was looking for participants for this year's Leadership Londonderry class which might start up this September if there are enough participants. All information including the registration form is on the town website.

Deb Paul invited the public to attend the 290th birthday celebration for the town. Festivities will be held at the Londonderry Town Common on 6/23/12 starting at 3:00PM. The event will be supported by local business with various festivities including a barbecue, music, rallies, games and activities. The funds raised will allow the Historical Society the means to improve the Rev. Morrison House and remove the Carriage House from the barn and allow the Parmenter Barn to be used for community events.

Public Hearing

None

Old Business

FY13 Goals and Objectives - Chairman Farrell said one goal was obtaining a quarterly financial statement regarding the town finances. This will show us where we stand from a revenue standpoint and a financial review by quarter. Town Manager Caron distributed the monthly and quarterly revenue and expenditure report. He said that Councilor Freda had requested they be put on the website; staff needs direction regarding the level of detail the citizens will be interested in. He pointed out that the monthly report is simply the General Fund which includes revenue and expenses. The quarterly report has more information including definitions, an explanation of the budget process and other funds along with a balance sheet. Chairman Farrell suggested that Councilor Freda review the documentation. Town Manager Caron stated that the Town can post both the quarterly and monthly reports. Councilor Green requested that the titles be clarified to indicate one report is quarterly and the other is monthly.

Town Manager Caron reviewed each of the goals and objectives from FY12. Chairman Farrell stated that we advertised for an individual to be part of the Economic Development Committee and did not receive any applicants so the person who was on it last time is on it again. Councilor Green asked if we can identify a date to achieve some of these goals instead of using “on-going”. Councilor Dolan said after the Planapalooza it was mentioned that our ordinances needed to be refreshed. The firm we hired said they can provide us with a newer template; this should be a FY13 objective. Chairman Butler said he agreed with Councilor Dolan, we need our zoning brought up to date. Chairman Farrell clarified that we would like to re-examine and refresh town ordinances regarding the zoning laws; he said we should review the firm’s recommendations.

Chairman Farrell said that years ago AES wanted to offer “community power authority” to the town, it will reduce our electric rates anywhere from 50% or higher. We should investigate the process; understand what it would cost us, what infrastructure would be required and what kind of employees we would need. We should get an understanding of the process and then approach Granite Ridge once we understand what it involves. The consensus was to investigate.

Chairman Farrell said we are going to re-develop the Economic Development Committee one of the charges to that committee should be raising tax revenues \$1M a year for the next 5 years. We need to give them the right tools to put them in a position to give that committee an annual goal.

Councilor Dolan asked what the goal is for the new Master Plan. Community Development Director Andre Garron said the time table for a draft is December. We are at the mid-way point now. Their contract stipulates delivering a draft by December, which could result in a public hearing held over the winter. Council’s goal was to have a presentation of the Master Plan to Council by 3/1/2013.

Chairman Farrell asked the Town Manager for an update on tree trimming by PSNH; he said he will have that at the next meeting.

New Business

FY13 Bonding Options – Town Manager Caron stated at the last Town Meeting voters approved a \$500,000 bond for road maintenance. That amount is small for the national market to bid on therefore the Town is planning offer the bond to local banks. The Town’s bond advisor suggested the Council consider into authorizing some of the bond for Exit 4A expenses as bond rates are extremely low and there is about \$70B in mature or called municipal bonds that will hit the market in June or July. There is an existing authorization of \$5.0M for Exit 4A, which has been reduced to \$4.5M with the issuance and subsequent repayment of a bond anticipation note in 1999 for \$500K. The Town has incurred an additional \$1.14M in engineering expenses which has been funded from the Town’s central cash account. Bonds cannot be pre-issued for this project due to difficulty with predicting the timing of invoices, which could raise arbitrage issues. Discussion ensued and it was decided to review and discuss this at next week’s meeting.

Resolution 2012-08 - Relative to an Application to NH DRED for an Economic Revitalization Zone Designation in North Londonderry. - **Councilor Green made a motion to accept, second by Councilor Freda.** Community Development Director Andre Garron reviewed the summary of the Jack Bridge Rd. /Rt. 28 Economic Revitalization Zone (ER-Z) which consists of 586 acres; it has 28 parcels of which 61% is vacant. He said of the 11 occupied sites 45% are underutilized. This program will allow businesses to get up to \$40K per year for up to 5 years which can be applied to their business profits tax or business enterprise tax for creating jobs. There is no cost to the town for this application.

He also explained that the Planning Board just recently approved a 109K sq. ft. retail center by Vista Ridge. He pointed out that staff will have a draft development handbook by the end of August. (Councilor Farrell left the meeting at 8:28PM). Vice Chairman Dolan called for a vote. **Council’s vote on the application was 4-0-0.** A. Garron stated that the Aquifer Protection Ordinance process will begin in August. (Chairman Farrell returned at 8:32PM)

Order 2012-06 – Relative to the Expenditure of Maintenance Trust Funds for Various Projects - **Councilor Dolan made a motion to accept, second by Councilor Green.** The Council requested additional information on the installation of back flow apparatus for North and South fire stations. **Council’s vote was 5-0-0.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council meeting minutes of 5/21/12 – **Councilor Freda made a motion to accept the minutes, second Councilor Butler.** **Council’s vote was 5-0-0.**

OTHER BUSINESS

Liaison Reports – Chairman Farrell attended the Manchester Airport Authority meeting and our appointees to the Authority were confirmed by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. The Airport Authority is offering 2 years of free landing rights and 2 years of free rent and has not gotten any takers. 40% of the cost of airlines is fuel, and the industry is moving to a “stub and hub” mentality. Manchester Airport Director Mark Brewer and his staff are going to all airlines to possibly get more business in Manchester. They are constantly looking at cutting costs.

Councilor Green said he couldn't go to the library meeting. He attended the Elderly Affairs meeting where they talked about the Planapalooza, the Master Plan and their involvement.

Councilor Freda attended the Planning Board meeting last week, Woodmont asked for a continuance until August. They talked about the Development Handbook, the Aquifer Protection Ordinance and transfer development rights. This Wednesday will be the amendment to the regulations so they can expedite not reading into the record every recommendation made by the town's engineer.

Councilor Dolan brought up the point that an easterly bound Exit 4A will not only serve Derry but Londonderry because we have a lot of land-locked undeveloped industrial land there.

Town Manager Report - The Town Manager thanked Jim Butler for staking the area to expand the Town Common; it should be hydro seeded tomorrow and hopefully ready for the Old Home Day festivities.

Board/Committee Appointments/Reappointments

- A. Appointment of Brian Edwards as a full member to the Solid Waste and Environment Committee, term to expire 12/31/12. **Councilor Dolan made a motion to appoint, second Councilor Freda. Council's vote was 5-0-0.**

Councilor Green said he spoke to other Councilors about having brass name tags to identify themselves when they are out in the public. He said they would be willing to pay for them. Chairman Farrell said we have some money in our budget so they could be paid for. M. Lapietro will look into it.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Dolan made a motion to adjourn at 8:45PM, second by Councilor Freda. Council's vote was 5-0-0.

Notes and Tapes by: Margo Lapietro Date: 06/11/12

Minutes Typed by: Margo Lapietro Date: 06/13/12

Approved by: Town Council Date: 06/18/12