

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1
2 **May 5, 2014**

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

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7 Present: Chairman Tom Dolan; Vice Chairman Jim Butler; Councilors Tom Freda, Jim Butler and John Farrell; Town
8 Manager Kevin Smith; Executive Assistant Kirby Wade

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10 **CALL TO ORDER**

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12 Chairman Dolan opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for all those
13 who serve us here and abroad.

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15 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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17 Councilor Farrell started with stating that there was a United States Supreme Court decision rendered today with regards to
18 prayer at a Town Council meeting and it was ruled that it was Constitutional. Councilor Farrell stated that he is not suggesting
19 that the Council offers prayer, but it was something interesting to bring up.

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21 Chairman Dolan stated that last week Gubernatorial Candidate Walt Havenstein toured Londonderry Town Hall last week.
22 Chairman Dolan introduced Havenstein to speak to the Council and Citizens. Chairman Dolan stated that this is something that
23 the Council does for any candidates who are interested in introducing themselves to Londonderry, regardless of party
24 affiliation and office they are seeking. Havenstein introduced himself and thanked the Council for having him. Havenstein
25 stated that he is a Republican Candidate for Governor and this is his first time running for office. Havenstein shared that two
26 years ago he was elected a representative to the Republican State Convention from his hometown of Alton, NH. Havenstein
27 went on to mention a little more about his background. He is a United States Marine and a modestly successful business man.
28 He spent twenty eight and a half years in the Marine Core, both active duty and reserve and about thirty years in business.
29 Havenstein stated that he has had the pleasure of leading some of the people in Londonderry at BAE Systems. He came up in
30 1999 to serve as President of Sanders and helped transition Sanders to BAE Systems. Havenstein stated that he rose up to
31 become the CEO of BAE Systems Inc. which is a \$20 billion dollar US based portion of a global company. Havenstein stated
32 that his time at Sanders and BAE Systems was the highlight of his professional career. Havenstein stated that he worked in
33 Nashua, Hudson and Merrimack. Havenstein stated that he finished up at BAE Systems and moved on to a company called
34 SAIC, which is a Science Application International Corporation, which is where he served for three years as the CEO of the
35 \$12 billion dollar publically traded company. Havenstein stated that in Nashua, with BAE Systems, he had to make some
36 tough choices. In 1999, the company was at the end of a significant downturn in the industry and with the help of some great
37 leaders, the company was able to turn around and grown substantially, creating more than a thousand jobs over the four and a
38 half years he was in Nashua. Havenstein stated that the company had to solve some very difficult fiscal problems. Havenstein
39 stated that that is what he brings to the fight here in New Hampshire. Havenstein stated that he is a fiscal conservative and he
40 has had to balance very large budgets. His operating budget at BAE Systems was about three times the size of the operating
41 budget in New Hampshire. Havenstein stated that he has never had a budget that was imbalanced, he never had a budget that
42 was depended upon uncertain revenue and he never had a budget he didn't meet. Havenstein stated that his whole emphasis in
43 seeking to be Governor is to restore fiscal certainty and discipline in Concord and at the same time, helping communities like
44 Londonderry grow economically and create jobs in the private sector. Havenstein stated that there is a lot to be done in that
45 regard. Havenstein stated that over the last decade we have seen the New Hampshire economic advantage widdle away and his
46 goal is to restore that. Havenstein stated that he will entertain any questions the Council might have.

47
48 Councilor Farrell stated that over the last ten years the Council has been working on economic development and he has

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

49 worked with the past Governors. Councilor Farrell stated that Governor Lynch was very public, very approachable and in the
50 conversations. Councilor Farrell stated that when he would call Governor Lynch, he would call him back. Councilor Farrell
51 stated what he is looking for going forward with anyone who is the Governor is, what your style is going to be like going
52 forward. Councilor Farrell asked Havenstein if he is going to be out talking to the people. Councilor Farrell stated he wants to
53 learn more about how he is going to actually do things, rather than what is on your platform. Councilor Farrell stated what he
54 is looking for is how he is going to continue to identify with the citizens in Londonderry. What is his style going to be like and
55 how is he looking to take the first two years, and what is going to be his overall message. Havenstein stated that Councilor
56 Farrell had a good question. Havenstein stated that his style tends to be, both in business and as Governor, out and about.
57 Havenstein stated that the value added at BAE and SAIC was not in his office. Havenstein stated that he has had eight to nine
58 thousand ongoing contracts at SAIC and many more than that at BAE Systems and not a single one of the contracts required
59 the companies to have a CEO. All the value added gets done down in the engineering labs, in the manufacturing operations
60 and out with the customers. Havenstein stated that his tenancy, just like he was as a leader in the Marines, is out and about
61 among the people, the value added part. Havenstein stated that he will not hold up in the corner office and wait for things to
62 happen. He will be accessible. Havenstein stated that he uses to get hundreds of e-mails a week and he answered every single
63 e-mail himself. Havenstein stated that he finds himself very approachable. Councilor Farrell stated that he appreciated
64 Havenstein's answer and there is a billion dollar development that is in litigation right now, with the developers. Councilor
65 Farrell stated that it is probably the largest development ever in New Hampshire, and that he looks forward to seeing
66 Havenstein there.

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68 Councilor Freda asked Havenstein what his philosophy is going to be regarding the competing claims of development versus
69 conservation or preservation. Councilor Freda stated that recently Londonderry had the FedEx development moving forward
70 and there was a conservation issue that was raised that could have delayed or even cancelled the project. Councilor Freda
71 asked Havenstein how he is going to work administratively to resolve those types of issues. Havenstein stated that those issues
72 would get raised as a priority for him. Havenstein stated that he will work to make that process both balanced and efficient.
73 Havenstein stated that he recognized that Pettingile project is important for Londonderry and in broader context, important for
74 New Hampshire.

75
76 Councilor Green stated that some of the reasons why costs shift from state to municipalities are because there is not enough
77 revenue. Councilor Green stated to Havenstein that one of the things he mentioned earlier is that he has always had a balanced
78 budget and he always hit his numbers. Councilor Green stated that if he gets elected, year after year there are costs that are
79 being pushed down to municipalities instead of being paid where they are supposed to be paid. Councilor Green asked
80 Havenstein how he plans on tackling that. Havenstein stated that it will be a combined effort. Havenstein stated that he
81 believes there are some efficiency to be gained at the stated level so that we are not always trying to come up with a new
82 gimmick on the revenue side. Havenstein stated that it looks to him like desperation to come up with a revenue number to
83 support the expenditure number. Havenstein stated that the first thing he looks at is on the expense side. Havenstein stated that
84 it seems as though the stated goes budget to budget and inevitably because there is no long term strategy on economic
85 development for the state. Havenstein stated that there will always be a cycle of trying to balance current revenues against
86 current expenditures. Havenstein stated that you need to start on the expenditure side, otherwise there will be no flexibility in
87 terms of dealing with the other big problems. Councilor Green stated that Havenstein's answer was refreshing and wished him
88 good luck.

89
90 Vice Chairman Butler stated that he is not opposed to any citizen or group requesting to receive a tour of the Town Hall. Vice
91 Chairman Butler stated that his concern is when a request comes in to Town Hall and it is of Political nature, he believes that it
92 is important that the citizens understand that the Town Council operates as a nonpartisan board. Butler stated that some
93 policies should be set and he has a few recommendations. Butler stated that in fairness to the citizens and to the board that
94 there is at least a one week notice. Butler also stated that the Town Manager should be at every tour that is political in nature
95 and during the week there should be a press release put out indicating that the town operates in a nonpartisan manner.
96 Councilor Farrell asked Butler if he is looking for a press release with each tour or just an overall press release. Butler stated
97 that the press release should give a weeks' notice and there should be a notice that a person's coming and this is the stand the
98 board takes.

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100 Ann Chiampa, 28 Wedgewood, asked the Council if the public can ask question of the candidates who come. Chairman Dolan
101 stated that it is an opportunity for the candidate to address the public and the Council would really rather not have debates.

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

102 Chiampa stated that it should be added to Vice Chairman Butler’s message. Chairman Dolan stated that if the public would
103 like to ask the candidate questions they could do it in the hallway outside of the meeting.

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OLD BUSINESS

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107 Chairman Dolan introduced the continuation of the Manchester Airport Authority candidate interviews. Chairman Dolan
108 stated that when the process is complete, the Council should take a meeting to consider who the Council will select for the
109 nomination. Dolan asked the Council to, between now and the next meeting, submit to him their top two candidates. Dolan
110 stated he will compile them and bring back to the Council the top two candidates chosen and on the 19th a candidate will be
111 submitted to the Airport Authority.

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113 Councilor Farrell gave an overview as to how the Board works. Councilor Farrell stated that Londonderry has two seats on the
114 board and one has to be a licensed pilot and there is one on there today. Farrell stated that the Council makes a
115 recommendation to the Airport Director of who the Council would like to see on the board. The airport director can either
116 agree or disagree. Councilor Farrell stated that the Manchester Alderman makes the appointment.

117

118 Chairman Dolan introduced Al Sproul, 5 Cardinal Circle. Sproul stated that he is not only a resident of Londonderry but he
119 owns an aviation business in Londonderry. Sproul stated he has been in Londonderry for 21 years. Sproul stated that he has
120 been involved in the Town sports clubs when his kids went to school in Londonderry. Sproul stated that he has been in
121 aviation for 34 years. 21 years in Londonderry and 14 years was in airline operations and twenty years has been at a company
122 called Aero Repair and Hemico, right here in Londonderry by the airport. Sproul stated that he is currently the President, at 14
123 Tinker Ave. Sproul stated that he was owner for 18 years and he just recently sold out to a private equity firm 2 years ago. He
124 is still a director on the board of directors. Sproul stated that he has experience on the maintenance and operations side of
125 aviation. Sproul stated that he also represents the FAA in the private sector. Sproul stated that he has his thoughts on what the
126 airport should do better and should attract. Councilor Green asked Sproul what he feels, with the skills and ideas that he has,
127 that he could bring to the board that would make him the best candidate.

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129 Chairman Dolan introduced Ron Senet. Senet stated that he has been a Londonderry resident for 32 years and he has applied
130 for this position before but he did not have a private pilot license, which back then was a requirement. Senet stated that he has
131 been all over. Senet stated that he set up trade missions, seminars and all types of international marketing programs. Senet
132 stated that if he can help improve the airport facility in Londonderry he would be happy to do it. Councilor Green asked Senet
133 how he would take his experiences to bring more people to the Manchester Airport. Senet stated that passenger traffic at the
134 Airport is very competitive. Senet stated that it is a tough situation and going after commercial traffic is the way to go.

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NEW BUSINESS

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138 Chairman Dolan introduced Order #2014-10 and order relative to the expenditure maintenance trust funds for various projects.
139 Vice Chairman Butler read the Order. Town Manager Smith stated that the Order is for the main hall structural engineers
140 services at the Lions Hall. Councilor Farrell asked if the new lease was complete. Smith stated that the new lease will be
141 released this week. Motion to approve Order #2014-10 made by Vice Chairman Butler and second by Councilor Farrell. **Chair**
142 **votes 5-0-0.**

143

144 Chairman Dolan stated that the Council should consider the fact that there is a lot of energy now being generated with the
145 Master Plan Committee around the Town Common. Chairman Dolan stated that there was also a recent citizen petition that
146 had to do with the Town Forest. Among several reasons the Council backed away from that and didn’t support it is because the
147 Council saw that as process getting out in front of policy. Chairman Dolan went over the planning packets that were given to
148 the Council members from the Master Plan. Chairman Dolan asked the Council members to look it over. Consider what is in
149 there. Chairman Dolan stated that he would like the Town Manager to come back at the next meeting with a recommendation
150 of how the Council can move forward. Town Manager Smith stated that the Master Implementation Committee is taking a
151 look at the Town Common as a high priority. Chairman Dolan asked Smith to get some recommendations together about what

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

152 to do for the Council to consider. The Council went on to talk about the different changes the Master Plan wants to make to the
153 Town Common area. Vice Chairman Butler stated that the Master Plan is a vision; it doesn't mean the exact proposed idea
154 needs to happen. Chairman Dolan stated that the Council should take a look at the Master Plan since the Town spent money on
155 it. Councilor Farrell stated that the Town has to do a Master Plan as required by state law. Chairman Farrell stated that he
156 knows but he doesn't think the Master Plan should be put aside, it should be looked at and the Council can decide what they
157 go with and what they don't want to go with. Smith reminded the people at home that they can go on the Town website on the
158 Economic Development webpage and access the Master Plan document. Chairman Farrell stated that the discussion can be
159 continued at the next meeting.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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163 Approval of the minutes from April, 21, 2014 made by Councilor Green and second by Councilor Freda. **Chair votes 4-0-1.**

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165 Councilor Butler asked if there is an update on the Nevins. Town Manager Smith stated that the town has not heard back from
166 the Attorney General's office.

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ADJOURNMENT

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170 Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Freda and second by Councilor Green. **Chair votes 5-0-0.**

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174 Notes and Tapes by: Kirby Wade Date: 05/05/14

175 Minutes Typed by: Kirby Wade Date: 05/08/14

176 Approved by: Town Council Date: 05/19/14

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