

# LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**March 14, 2022**

The meeting took place in the Moose Hill Council Chambers, 268B Mammoth Rd, Londonderry, NH 03053.

Present: Chairman John Farrell; Vice Chairman Joe Green; Councilor Jim Butler, Chad Franz, and Deb Paul; Acting Town Manager Michael Malaguti; Absent: Executive Assistant Kirby Brown, Assistant Town Manager Lisa Drabik

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Farrell called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for all of those who are in harms way in Ukraine, pray for their safety.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

First order of business was Council reorganization. Councilor Butler motioned to appoint John Farrell as Chairman and Joe Green for Vice Chairman. Second by Councilor Chad Franz. Chair votes 5-0-0.

Police Chief Bill Hart discussed the part-time retiree healthcare insurance with the Council. Acting Town Manager Michael Malaguti stated that this discussion came up at a prior meeting. The first concern was that there are a lot of unfilled positions at the Police and Fire Department. And a concern was expressing around the provision of health insurance benefits to part-time retired employees. Chief Hart stated that they typically run about seven open positions per year. Chief Hart stated that more than one third of the PD has shifted in the last less than four year. Chief Hart went over what it takes to hire an uncertified police officer in terms of testing and training. It takes a year and a half. And a year for a certified officer. Chief Hart stated that because of the extensive hiring process, they have low complaints.

Chief Hart stated that the health insurance was dealt with creatively. When the Conservation Ranger was hired, it looked like it could be done for one cost. That however didn't workout

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35 for the employee. When the search was done for another employee's, it just wouldn't work.  
36 Chief Hart stated that they crafted a specific category of employee who could get the part-  
37 time basis and could have access to health insurance. It was not easy to do. Chief Hart stated  
38 that they worked with finance to come up with a way to do it. The push came in the use of  
39 the stipend which employees are given to defray the overall cost of insurance. Chief Hart  
40 stated that people who are on the roles, as group two employee's, on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2000 or  
41 before, qualify for the subsidy, if they retire after twenty years. All three of the employee's  
42 met that qualification. These are full-time, part time certified, officers. They can do  
43 everything a police officer can do.

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45 Dan Bouchard, 8 O'Connell Dr, stated that this should have been brought out beforehand.  
46 Bouchard stated that the sidebar was signed in 2020 and this has been going on for two  
47 years without the tax payers and Council knowing. Bouchard stated that he wants to see  
48 transparency.

49  
50 Richard Belinsky, 89 Hall Road, stated that he is all about transparency. If the voters vote  
51 on a union contract and a few months later it gets changed, the taxpayer needs to know about  
52 it.

53  
54 Acting Town Manager Malaguti went over the Charter and how the sidebar works. Malaguti  
55 stated that under the Charter, the Town Manager is the chief operating officer of the town.  
56 He is responsible for the administrative and financial affairs of the town.

57  
58 Councilor Paul stated that she sees where the public is coming from and she doesn't believe  
59 anyone is saying anyone did something wrong. Councilor Paul stated that it is refreshing to  
60 see Acting Town Manager Malaguti to keep the Council updated.

61  
62 Tom asked if it would open up a can of worms for teachers, public works employees, anyone  
63 who wants part time. Chairman Farrell stated that he doesn't believe so. The schools are a  
64 separate form of government.

65  
66 Kristine Perez, 5 Wesley Drive, stated that the town needs to think more about running like  
67 a business, because it is a big business. The real world does not get health insurance at  
68 twenty hours. What is to stop more people, and other departments, to want to work part-  
69 time once they retire and take health insurance.

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Sean O'Mara, President of the Green Council at Londonderry High School. O'Mara stated that he wants to talk about having a possible member join the SWEC. Malaguti stated that Lynn Wiles reached out to him about an interested student. Malaguti stated that it was a good idea but wanted to check with the Council. Malaguti stated that the student could be an Ex-Officio or a full member. A liaison would work as well. Chairman Farrell asked if they need to be 18. The Council stated that it was a great idea.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Re-appointment of the Tax Collector, pursuant to RSA 41:33, to re-appoint Allison Parsons, as the Tax Collector for one-year from April 1, 2022. Vice Chairman Green motioned. Second by Councilor Butler. Chair votes 5-0-0.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve the Town Council minutes from February 22, 2022 made by Vice Chairman Green and second by Councilor Paul. Chair votes 4-1-0. Councilor Franz abstained because he wasn't a member on the Council at the time.

Town Manager Mike Malaguti gave a Town Manager update.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Vice Chairman Green and second by Councilor Franz. Chair votes 5-0-0.

Notes and Tapes by:	Kirby Brown	Date: 3/14/2022
Minutes Typed by:	Kirby Brown	Date: 3/21/2022
Approved by:	Town Council	Date: 3/28/2022