

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2020

The meeting took place in Moose Hill Council Chambers at Town.

Present: Chairman John Farrell; Vice Chairman Joe Green; Councilor Tom Dolan, Jim Butler and Deb Paul; Town Manager Kevin Smith; Executive Assistant Kirby Brown; Absent; Assistant Town Manager Lisa Drabik

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Farrell called the Town Council meeting to order. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for Londonderry Police Chief Bill Hart's father, Doctor Hart, who passed away recently. Dr. Hart started a medical practice in Plaistow, NH over 60 years ago. Moment of silence was held for Dr. Hart.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steven Lewis, 95 May St, Atkinson, spoke about his project, Sandborn Crossing Senior Living. Lewis stated that his project is now complete. It's occupying it now. Lewis stated that he would like the Councilors to take a walk through to see it. Lewis stated that the project is low income tax credits. It's rent capped. Lewis stated that there was also a state bond because it was a large project. The land was a brown field and it took a while to go through all of the processes. The project is now finished. Lewis urged the Council to walk through. HUD determines the rent. Residents don't pay any utilities besides phone and cable. Chairman Farrell stated that he is waving the five-minute limit for this presentation. Vice Chairman Green thanked Lewis for his hard work and for the project. Green also thanks Senior Center Director Cathy Blash for the connect that we made. She's also part of Senior Affairs Committee and this project came out of that.

John Best, 27 Atlas Place, stated that no matter what an RSA says, the supreme law in United States is the Declaration of Independence which says that government gets their powers from the consent of the government and he does not consent to anyone making a mask rule that can effect his health. Best stated that as far as he knows, masks are hazardous to peoples health. Best called Covid a hoax. Best stated that the Council should watch a

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video that is from a doctor, titled “Crimes Against Humanity”. Best stated that he doesn’t understand why people are wearing masks. Chairman Farrell suggested to Best to stick around to see what the Council does with the Ordinance.

Ann Chiampa, 28 Wedgewood Drive, stated that she would like to say a few words about the Planning Board appointments. Chiampa gave a little background about herself and why she should be appointed as a full member of the Planning Board. Chairman Farrell lifted the five-minute limit for Chiampa to proceed. Chiampa went over her history with all she has done in Londonderry and on various boards and committees. Chiampa stated that she has only missed a few meetings in the last few years, even while battling cancer. Chiampa asked that the Council appoint her to Mary Wing Soares term now and honor the Planning Boards vote to fill her seat. Councilor Dolan motioned to Ann Chiampa to fill Mary Wing Soares full member seat on the Planning Board with an expiration date of 12/31/2020. Second by Councilor Butler. Chair votes 5-0-0. Chiampa thanked the Council.

PUBLIC HEARING

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Farrell introduced Ordinance #2020-04, an emergency Ordinance regarding face coverings and masks. Town Manager Smith presented. Smith stated that this Ordinance was drafted with the town attorneys’ input. It’s a very generic Ordinance, similar to other towns Ordinances. This one contains a trigger provision, where the Councils direction from the last meeting upon notification of the EMD or other public health official of there being increase community spread, the Council will vote on whether to enact the Ordinance. Smith stated that if the Ordinance is adopted, it will stay on the books unless or until, we need it. At that point it is just a tool in the tool box.

Chairman Farrell stated that the fines are light. Councilor Dolan stated that this Ordinance only covers Covid-19. So once it goes away by herd immunity or vaccines, the way this is written is you can only enforce masks during Covid-19. Councilor Dolan suggested making the Ordinance more generic to other diseases or sicknesses and this history of the document

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69 can go back to the pandemic. Smith stated that the idea was run by the town attorney but it
70 will be a legal challenge. It needs to be tied to something more specific. Councilor Paul
71 asked for examples of what some of the triggers may be. Chief Darren O'Brien stated that
72 if there was a rise in cases. Chief O'Brien stated that he gets the number of cases daily.
73 Chief O'Brien stated that the cases have been pretty steady over the last month and a half.
74 There are currently six addresses in town and a couple school occupants. Chief O'Brien
75 stated that if there was a massive increase, that's a trigger. Or if the state finds a trigger.
76 Councilor Butler stated that the decision will be the boards decision, not just the chiefs and
77 it's hard to outline triggers. Chairmen Farrell stated that his opinion is there isn't enough
78 information right now to implement an Ordinance. The Council is just starting to shorten
79 the time that it would take to have a public hearing in case we ever need it.

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81 Motion to table Ordinance #2020-04 indefinitely made by Vice Chairman Green and second
82 by Councilor Butler. Chair votes 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS

84
85
86 NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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90 Motion to approve the Town Council minutes, with Ann Chiampa's amendment, from
91 September 28, 2020 made by Councilor Dolan and second by Councilor Paul. Chair votes
92 4-0-1.

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

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96 Chairman Farrell went through the Planning Board appointments.

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98 Motion to appoint Jeff Penta to the full-time position on the Planning Board with a term
99 ending 12/31/2021 and Jason Knights for the alternate position with a term ending
100 12/31/2021. Second by Councilor Dolan. Chair votes 4-1-0. Councilor Paul voted against.

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The Council interviewed David Armstrong, 30 Sherwood Dr, and Irene Macarelli, 99 High Range Rd, for the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Brendan O'Brien who is an alternate on the ZBA now and expressed interest in moving up to the full position. Councilor Dolan motioned to move O'Brien up to the full-time position. Second by Councilor Butler. Chair votes 5-0-0.

This opens up an alternate position to be filled. Councilor Paul motioned to table to ZBA appointment. Second by Councilor Butler. Chair votes 5-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Town Manager Smith stated that all of the reimbursement Covid related expenses to the small businesses in town have all been awarded. There is a press release on the town's website. In total, over \$50,000 was awarded to small businesses.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Dolan and seconded by Councilor Paul. Chair votes 5-0-0.

Notes and Tapes by: Kirby Brown

Date: 10/05/2020

Minutes Typed by: Kirby Brown

Date: 10/12/2020

Approved by: Town Council

Date: 10/19/2020