

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 28, 2019

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

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Farrell called the Town Council special meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for all of those who serve us both here and abroad.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Farrell said that those people who are here about the water quality study will have time to speak when the issue is addressed later on in the meeting.

Chairman Farrell invited up Justin Campo, the Finance Director, who explained the new tax rate that was released by the town at \$19.39, which went down. Chairman Farrell stated that just because the tax rate went down, doesn't mean that taxes are going to go down. Chairman Farrell stated that there was a statement written recently that said peoples taxes would go down a few hundred dollars a year. Chairman Farrell stated that that was an inaccurate statement. Chairman Farrell stated that this is an assessment year and in today's market, everyone's houses increased. The commercial property didn't go up as fast as the residential property. Campo went over the differences and changes.

Gwen St. Germaine and Sarah Fagen, Girl Scout Leaders for Troop 12591, introduced the Kent Allen Forest Storybook Trail project that was completed in the Kent Allen Forest this past summer. They were accompanied by four of the members of Girl Scout Troop 12591. The Girl Scout presented their kiosks which promote picking up after yourself in the Forest. The Council thanked the Girl Scouts for what they did and on a successful project.

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OLD BUSINESS

Lisa Drabik discussed the future of the Old Home Day Committee. Drabik stated the longtime Chair of the committee has started to indicate that she's done Old Home Day for over twenty years and she is done. There is talk about transitioning the committee. There is an existing Resolution right now back from 2011 saying that the committee is volunteer led Committee under the town. Drabik stated that they ask that the Council consider, there is not one drafted yet, a new Resolution which would state how the committee will function going forward. We have talked about it internally and we would recommend it to be a multi-year transition where the staff would recruit and train new volunteers to take over the OHC with some town oversight from the Finance Department. Justin Campo went over the finances regarding OHD and how much it generally costs. Campo stated that the current balance is \$23,000 which is where it was at the start of last year. Campo stated that Kathy Wagner has done a good job at staying in budget. Chairman Farrell stated that at the meeting last week Mary Soares resigned, and Cathy Wagner resigned (but will stay on and help transition). The Council gave a recommendation on how it should move forward. The Council agreed that it should be put under the direction of the Town Manager, have the Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager work with having the staff rebuild the volunteer base.

Betsy McKinney, 3 Leelynn Circle, stated that she doesn't think putting an employee as the Chair is a good idea. She stated that it should be all volunteer based.

PUBLIC HEARING

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Farrell introduced Jeff Mart, Project Manager for the Saint-Gobain site investigation, and Clark Freise, Assistant Commissioner of NHDES and Mark Henderson, Nobis Engineering who presented the Council and public with the results from the baseline water quality study. Steve Cotton, Town of Londonderry Administrative Support Coordinators presented as well. This is the study from the March 2018 ballot in which the town was going to study the wells in town. Cotton stated that of the thirty-two private wells with the new revised standard of twelve, thirteen of the thirty-

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two did come above that standard of twelve and above. The highest they got was forty-one. Cotton went over the study.

Kevin Whitley, 7 Rolling Ridge, stated that he is surprised to see he is seven on the list. Whitley asked if PFOA is testing in the air. Cotton stated that we do not test that in the air. Whitley asked if there will be any further testing going forward. Mart stated that Saint-Gobain entered into a consent decree to establish an area where they are responsible for the ground contamination. Freise stated that everyone can go visit their website nhdes.gov and view all the results.

Ray Breslin, 3 Gary Drive, congratulated NHDES and others who have worked very diligently on this project. Breslin stated that PFOA is a very serious problem. Testing of water is extremely important.

Paul Ambler, 14 Tokanel Dr, stated that he is not in the Saint-Gobain district but he is in the Tinkham zone and he has been contacted by Haley and Aldrich, the firm that is representing Tinkham Group. Ambler stated his back ground is in water purifications. Ambler stated that his water had been clean the first few times it was tested, but got a call and since the State changed their standards, his water was now not clean.

The Council asked if the information from NHDES could be put up on the website. The information is listed under 'Town News' section of the website.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve Town Council minutes from October 7, 2019 made by Councilor Dolan and second by Councilor Combes. Chair votes 5-0-0.

BOARD/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

The Town Council interviewed and appointment Don Turcotte as a Member on the Traffic Safety Committee, which is an ad hoc committee. Motion to appoint Turcotte was made by Vice Chairman Green and second by Councilor Butler. Chair votes 5-0-0.

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ADJOURNMENT

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112 Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Combes and seconded by Vice Chairman Green.
113 Chair votes 5-0-0.

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115 Notes and Tapes by: Kirby Brown Date: 10/28/2019

116 Minutes Typed by: Kirby Brown Date: 11/05/2019

117 Approved by: Town Council Date: 11/07/2019