

1 **Londonderry Town Council Minutes**
2 **Monday, November 7, 2022**
3 **7:00 PM**
4 **Moose Hill Council Chambers**

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6
7 **Attendance:** Present: Chairman John Farrell; Councilor Jim Butler, Chad Franz, and Deb Paul;
8 Town Manager Michael Malaguti; Finance Director Justin Campo; Absent: Vice Chairman Joe
9 Green; Kirby Brown, Executive Assistant

10
11 **Call to Order**
12

13 Chairman Farrell called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Pledge was led by
14 Councilor Franz. Councilor Franz held a moment of silence for the Veterans and all those who
15 have served us and honoring Veterans Day.

16
17 **Public Comment**
18

19 Londonderry Police Chief Bernard introduced new promotions that have been made at the PD.
20 Chief Bernard stated that the four men standing in front came to Londonderry from other agencies.
21 Det. Andrew Phillips to Patrol Sergeant; Officer Ryan Maclean to Patrol Sergeant; Sergeant Keith
22 Lee to Patrol Lieutenant; and Sergeant Garrett Malloy to Patrol Lieutenant. The Council
23 congratulated the officers on their promotions.

24
25 Chairman Farrell read a Town Council Proclamation in honor of Small Business Saturday.

26
27 Chairman Farrell stated that tomorrow, November 8th, is Election Day. The polls open at 6 AM
28 and close at 8 PM. The Council urged te public to get out and vote.

29
30 **Name:** John Grennon

31 **Address:** 14 Jewel Ct., Londonderry

32 Grennon stated that he was going to ask what the process was for a warrant article, to increase the
33 police department presence at the schools for the SRO program. Grennon stated that LPD does an
34 amazing job and they all make parents feel more comfortable. Grennon stated that he is unsure if
35 the department is allowed to increase staffing at the schools, but what happens when one officer is
36 gone or out sick. How do they backfill when someone is not there? Grennon stated that everyone
37 should think about not defunding the police department.

38
39 Chairman Farrell stated that once public comment is closed, he will answer Grennon's question.

41 **Name:** Martha Smith

42 **Address:** 38 Shasta Drive, Londonderry

43 Smith stated that at the last Town Council meeting, Mike Speltz gave a presentation about the
44 Energy Task Force. Smith asked what the status of the task force is. Smith stated that there's a
45 group of active volunteers. Chairman Farrell stated that it is number seven on the agenda.

46

47 **Name:** Kristine Perez

48 **Address:** 5 Wesley Drive, Londonderry

49 Perez stated that she may not stay for the whole meeting, but she would like to speak in favor of
50 the Energy Task Force that has worked so hard. To have new and different people on it now would
51 hurt the committee. Why start over again.

52

53 **Name:** Justin Campo, Finance Director

54 Campo stated he reached out to DRA and he received the current preliminary tax rate. Campo
55 asked the Council what they would like to do to use the UFB to lower the tax rate. Right now the
56 tax rate is at \$18.48 per thousand. It is up ten cents from the previous years. Campo stated that the
57 UFB is not as healthy as it normally would be. Chairman Farrell stated that \$1M was used last
58 year to off-set the tax rate. Campo stated that right now there is two-hundred thousand set to lower
59 it. Councilor Paul stated that the Council should wait a bit since they just got the numbers. It's
60 hard to decide she's not opposed; the Councilor should just digest it first. Chairman Farrell stated
61 that his opinion is to ride a year out. Chairman Farrell stated that if the Council doesn't decide
62 tonight, it will push the tax bills out an extra week.

63

New Business

65

66 Chairman Farrell addressed the comment in regards to citizen petitions. Chairman Farrell stated
67 that no one is defunding the police, that is a political word. Chairman Farrell said he doesn't
68 personally believe we should remove first responders, but hard discussions need to be had. Town
69 Manager Malaguti showed how to file a citizen petition through the town's website, on the Finance
70 Department's page. Malaguti stated that there is a deadline in January for submitted a warrant
71 article. Campo shared the budget calendar with all of the deadlines. The deadline if you require a
72 bond, is Friday January 6th. If you do not require a bond, it is January 10th. Campo stated that they
73 do offer, free of charge, for the petition to be looked at. All of the pages must state the same thing
74 and there should be more than twenty-five signatures just in case.

75

Resolution #2022-10 – Acceptance of Unanticipated Revenue (Under RSA31:95-b) Londonderry Concerts on the Common Graft

78 **Presented by:** Finance Director Justin Campo

79

80 Campo stated that Concerts on the Common applied for the grant that they've received for the past
81 two years. They have been awarded it in the amount of \$5,100. It helps with their expenses and to
82 bring in the talent that they do. They worked hard to apply for the Grant.

83 **Motion:** Vice Chairman Green

84 **Second:** Councilor Franz

85 Chair votes 5-0-0

86

87 **Order #2022-17 – An Order Relative to the Distribution of Fire Equipment Capital Reserve
88 Funds**

89 **Presented by:** Bruce Hallowell and Fred Heinrich

90

91 Hallowell stated that this is for turnout gear, in the amount of \$26,045.00. The coast has
92 significantly increased over the last few years. Hallowell stated that what they do is rotate gear
93 down now to new firefighters. Hallowell stated that they have had supply chain problems and you
94 can't get certain things. Hallowell thanked the Council for their support

95

96 **Motion:** Vice Chairman Green

97 **Second:** Councilor Franz

98 Chair votes 5-0-0

99

100 **Orders #2022-18, #2022-19, #2022-20, and #2022-21 – Order Relative to Expenditure of
101 Maintenance Trust Fund for Various Projects**

102 **Presented by:** DPW Director, Dave Wholley

103

104 Wholley went through each of the Orders. Chairman Farrell took a motion to approve Orders
105 #2022-18, #2022-19, #2022-20, and #2022-21 together.

106

107 **Motion:** Vice Chairman Green

108 **Second:** Councilor Butler

109 Chair votes 5-0-0

110

111 **Energy Task Force Workshop Discussion**

112

113 Chairman Farrell stated that usually a Task Force has a start date and end date and specific goals.
114 Chairman Farrell stated that something that has been discussed is that the Energy Task Force is to
115 narrowly focused, and it should be something more like a utilities commission. A permeant
116 committee that all utilities can fall under. Councilor Paul stated that the task force was something
117 she came up with and she thinks it should be permanent and it should be the same people who
118 have been on it, maybe get some help from some staff. Councilor Paul suggestion going from a
119 task force to a committee. Chairman Farrell stated that the Council will have to decide what the
120 committee will look like as a group, and the positions will need to be advertised, even if the Council
121 decides to appoint the same group of people. The Council decided that it will be discussed how to
122 move forward.

123

124 **Tax Bill Discussion**

125

126 Chairman Farrell stated that the tax bills are going up a dime. Councilor Franz asked how much is
127 one cent. Campo stated that fifty thousand is roughly one cent on the tax rate. According to DRA,
128 to get us to where we were last year, it would be \$514,406.00. Campo stated that had the town not
129 used the \$800,000.00 last year from the UFB, the town would be looking at a tax rate decrease this
130 year. Campo stated that sooner or later, you're going to run out of money to put at the at the tax
131 rate. Councilor Paul stated that she would like to keep it the same, just for this year, since so many
132 families are struggling right now. Chairman Farrell stated that the Council has given back four
133 times, but now members are looking to give back five times. The Council decided to wait until the
134 14th to decide, but it will put the tax bills back a week. Chairman Farrell stated that it is a lot of
135 money that is being discussed.

136

137 **Motion:** Councilor Butler

138 **Second:** Councilor Franz

139 Chair votes 5-0-0

140

141 **Approval of Minutes**

142

143 **Motion to approve the minutes from October 17, 2022:** Vice Chairman Green

144 **Second:** Councilor Franz

145 Chair votes 5-0-0

146

147 The Council voted to lift the water restrictions now that the drought status has ended. Motion made
148 by Councilor Franz and seconded by Vice Chairman Green. Chair vote 5-0-0.

149

150 **Adjournment**

151

152 **Motion:** Vice Chairman Green

153 **Second:** Councilor Franz

154 Chair votes 5-0-0

155

156 Minutes taken by Kirby Brown on 11/07/2022

157 Minutes typed by Kirby Brown on 11/14/2022

158 Minutes approved by Town Council on 11/14/2022