

# LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**November 30, 2020**

The meeting took place in the Londonderry High School Cafeteria, 295 Mammoth Rd, Londonderry, NH 03053.

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

## **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 those who serve us both here and abroad.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Town Planner Colleen Mailloux gave the Council an update on the water resource management plan. A combination of projects that have been completed in the town relating to water resource. Mailloux stated that she would like to come back to the Council with annual updates with the status of different items and to provide updates.

Councilor Paul asked if there was a timeline on when the rest of the information will come in. Councilor Paul stated that if too much time passes, the data wouldn't be good. Mailloux stated that some of the recommendations are to continue to receive and update data, so to just items having to do with the results. Mailloux stated the high energy, low cost items are going to be the ones that they're going to work on first. Councilor Paul asked if anyone has reached out to the residents and finding out if anyone has had their water tested, would they be willing to give the town a copy of their test to help map out what is what. Mailloux stated that it is a task on the list. It could be a low cost to the town. It's not something that has started yet.

Vice Chairman Green asked when some of the costs would be filled in. Mailloux stated

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34 that the timing on getting this to the Council, they missed this budget cycle. Mailloux stated  
35 that departments are working on identifying the task steps and the dollar amount associated  
36 with each. The goal is to come back to the Council during CIP or the beginning of the  
37 budget season next year.

38  
39 Councilor Paul asked if NHDES was reached out to for aid or grants. Mailloux stated that  
40 the water resource management plan did not identify grant resources that are out there.  
41 Mailloux stated that where grants are available, they try to go after them.

42  
43 Chairman Farrell stated that it should be looked at after we finish budgets and start looking  
44 at what numbers would look like for CIP and start moving down that path to at least get it  
45 on the radar for CIP.

46  
47 Marge Badois, Conservation Commission, stated that NHDES announced that they set  
48 aside \$1.5M to help low income families that are having trouble with dry or low performing  
49 wells. The information will be posted on the town website for residents to apply.

50  
51 Ray Breslin, 3 Gary Drive, stated that this has been talked about for a long time. Breslin  
52 asked the Council where it stands with the water quality and quantity studies. Chairman  
53 Farrell stated that it was a study that was on the ballot and completed already. Town  
54 Manager Smith stated that they were completed a while ago and recorded. The water  
55 management plan grew out of both of those studies.

56  
57 Chief Darren O'Briwn gave an update from Department of Homeland Security and the  
58 stumble Inn on Rockingham Road is shut down due to an outbreak. DHHS is doing the  
59 contact tracing. The town currently has 116 positive cases. Chief O'Brien reminded  
60 everyone to continue to wear masks and be careful of your surroundings.

61  
62 Town Manager Smith thanked Al Sypek and members of the ALERT Team who were out  
63 on the Common all weekend long putting up the Christmas trees and the nativity scene.  
64 Smith announced that Santa will be riding around in fire trucks on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.  
65 Stay tuned on the website for more information.

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### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Motion to open Public Hearing made by Vice Chairman Green and second by Councilor Dolan. Chair votes 4-0-0.

Chairman Farrell introduced Ordinance #2020-05, an amendment to the municipal code relating to the Traffic Safety Ordinance. Town Manager Smith stated that this topic about traffic traveling fast on Litchfield Rd, the amount of cars has increased in the last ten years due to the airport access road, has been discussed at the Traffic Safety Committee meetings. The speed of the traffic has increased. Traffic Safety Committee decided to lower the speed limit to 30 MPH. Councilor Paul stated that she doesn't know if this will change anything. Councilor Paul asked Police Chief Bill Hart if this will help the situation. Chief Hart stated it won't change the amount of traffic, but it will decrease the average speed by 5-6 MPH on average. This will bring the speed down. We will do so by education, publicizing it everywhere and having officers out there. After that they will ticket and enforce. Chief Hart stated that he does believe it will make a difference.

Ann Chiampa, 28 Wedgewood Drive, stated that she doesn't always notice the signs but she does notice the flashing speed checkers.

Motion to approve Ordinance #2020-05 made by Vice Chairman Green and second by Councilor Paul. Chair votes 4-0-0.

Chairman Farrell introduced Ordinance #2020-06, an amendment to the Londonderry Zoning Ordinance relative to elderly housing. Planner Colleen Mailloux presented. Mailloux stated that this came from a concern regarding dense developments. This Ordinance would eliminate the elderly housing ordinance. Motion to approve Ordinance #2020-06 made by Councilor Dolan and second by Councilor Paul. Chair votes 4-0-0.

Motion to close public hearing made by Vice Chairman Green and second by Councilor Dolan. Chair votes 4-0-0.

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### NEW BUSINESS

Finance Director Justin Campo introduced Resolution #2020-17, a Resolution relative to the acceptance of unanticipated revenue under RSA 31:95-b. Campo stated that this is accepting an addition \$7,500 from the Center for Tech and Civic life. This additional funding is from the election. Motion to accept Resolution #2020-17 and the addition funding made by Vice Chairman Green and second by Councilor Paul. Chair votes 4-0-0.

Campo introduced Resolution #2020-18, a Resolution relative to the acceptance of unanticipated revenue under RSA 31:95-b. Campo stated that this is additional funding as well from the state CARES Act in the amount of \$1,869.21. Motion to approve Resolution #2020-18 made by Councilor Paul and second by Vice Chairman Green. Chair votes 4-0-0.

Town Manager Smith presented the contract between the Town and Whitney Consulting. Smith stated this spring the Assessing Department had a few employees leave and retire. This contract would be in lieu of hiring a chief Assessor for the town. We are contracting with a consulting group. Assistant Town Manager Drabik stated that it's a three year term, with two additional one year optional extensions. Drabik read the rest of the terms of the contract. Steve Hamilton, President of Whitney consulting introduced himself. Chairman Farrell asked if the town was saving money. Drabik stated that yes over the life of the contract and every year. Smith stated that in the first year it represents a \$10k savings. It goes up from there because there is a little more of an added cost in year one. They would also do the commercial revaluation update, which will save the town \$80k.

Councilor Paul asked Hamilton how long his company has been around for. Hamilton stated two years. Hamilton stated that the level of experience they bring is huge. They have four of the highest level certified Assessors and between the four of them they have a combined experience of over one hundred years. Councilor Paul asked if the savings could be broken down. Smith stated that there is a savings because the town is not hiring the Chief Assessor. The savings is in the salary, the benefits and not outsourcing the commercial reassessment. The Council gave the Town Manager consensus to sign the contract.

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### OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager Smith and Finance Director Campo went over items that were discussed at the previous meeting.

Christine Patton, member of the Budget Committee, has special permission to be removed. She announced via telephone that she is present via phone.

Campo presented the Council with a chart of what positions have been added in the last few years. Chairman Farrell stated that a majority of the ones that have been added were added by ballot. Campo presented some other budgetary items. Smith went over some line items. Chairman Farrell stated that the budget public hearing is December 7<sup>th</sup> so the public can come speak on items.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the Town Council minutes from November 11, 2020 and November 16, 2020 made by Councilor Paul and second by Vice Chairman Green. Chair votes 4-0-0.

### APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

NONE

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Vice Chairman Green and seconded by Councilor Dolan. Chair votes 4-0-0.

Notes and Tapes by: Kirby Brown

Date: 11/30/2020

Minutes Typed by: Kirby Brown

Date: 12/03/2020

Approved by: Town Council

Date: 12/07/2020