

TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA
November 1, 2021
Moose Hill Council Chambers
7:00 P.M.

Regular meetings are cablecast live and videotaped for the convenience of our viewers at home. 7:00 PM.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1.) Braver Angels Presentation
Presented by Brian MacDonald
- 2.) School Pathway Funding Update
Presented by Sandy Laguex and Bob Rimol
- 3.) Net Zero Task Force Presentation
Presented by Jeff Moulton and Josh Bourdon

C. PUBLIC HEARING

D. NEW BUSINESS

- 1.) Discussion of Settlement Proposal in Pennichuck Rate Case
Presented by Mike Malaguti
- 2.) Discussion of 2021 Town Tax Rate
Presented by Kevin Smith and Justin Campo
- 3.) **Resolution #2021-24** - A Resolution Relative to the Elderly Exemption Policy (**First Reading**)
Presented by Steve Hamilton
- 4.) **Resolution #2021-25** – A Resolution Relative to the Disabled Persons Exemption Policy (**First Reading**)
Presented by Steve Hamilton
- 5.) **Resolution #2021-26** – A Resolution Relative to the Acceptance of Unanticipated Revenue Under RSA 31:95-b
Presented by Justin Campo

E. OLD BUSINESS

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of October 18, 2021 Town Council Minutes

G. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

- 1.) **Interview of Debbie Desrochers for an Alternate Position on the Senior Resources Committee**
- 2.) **Resignation of Robert Palmer from the Senior Resources Committee**

H. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Liaison Reports
2. Town Manager Report
3. Assistant Town Manager Report

I. ADJOURNMENT

J. MEETING SCHEDULE

- A. Town Council Budget Workshop 11/06/2021
Moose Hill Council Chambers, 8:00 AM
- B. Town Council Meeting – 11/22/2021
Moose Hill Council Chambers, 7:00 PM

RESOLUTION #2021-24

A Resolution Relative to the

ELDERLY EXEMPTION POLICY

First Reading: 11/01/2021

Hearing/Second Reading: 11/22/2021

Adopted: 11/22/2021

WHEREAS The Londonderry Town Council, at its meeting of February 24, 1997, adopted Resolution 97-2, which enacted Chapter XII - the Elderly Exemption Policy; and

WHEREAS The Town Council is desirous of reviewing benefit levels and making adjustments to insure that the exemption amounts are appropriate for current economic conditions; and,

WHEREAS The Town Council may, pursuant to the provisions of RSA 72:27-a consider and act upon the question in accordance with its normal procedures for passage of resolutions, ordinances and other legislation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Londonderry, that the provisions of ***Title VI - Town Policy, Chapter XII - Elderly Exemption Policy*** are hereby adopted and modified as set forth herein and shall become effective February 3, 2020 and reviewed periodically thereafter.

John Farrell - Chairman

A true copy attest:

Sherry Farrell - Town Clerk
Dated: 11/22/2021

(TOWN SEAL)

Chapter XII - ELDERLY EXEMPTION POLICY

SECTION I PURPOSE

- A. To adopt the provisions of RSA 72:39-A and RSA 72:39-B and establish qualifications for the optional adjusted elderly exemption.

SECTION II QUALIFICATIONS *and* DEFINITIONS

- A. To qualify the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least three (3) years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least three (3) years.
- B. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$40,800 if single or widowed, or if married, a combined net income (as defined in RSA 72:39-A I (b)), of not more than \$50,300 and own net assets not in excess of \$137,000, excluding the value of the person's residence up to two (2) acres.

SECTION III BENEFITS

- A. The elderly exemption from property tax in the Town of Londonderry based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers shall be as follows, and shall be reviewed annually:

For a person of 65 years of age, up to 74 years	\$ 144,000
For a person of 75 years of age, up to 79 years	\$ 180,000
For a person of 80 years or older	\$ 240,000

- B. The exemption under this section shall apply only in taxable years on the residential real estate for which the exemption is claimed on April 1 in any given year.
- C. Whenever the selectmen or assessors refuse to grant an applicant an exemption to which he/she may be entitled under this section, said applicant may appeal the decision in accordance with RSA 72:34a.
- D. An exemption granted under this section shall have no effect on an applicant's eligibility for other exemptions as authorized under this chapter.

~~End of Policy~~

RESOLUTION #2021-25

A Resolution Relative to the

DISABLED PERSONS EXEMPTION POLICY

First Reading: 11/01/2021

Hearing/Second Reading: 11/22/2021

Adopted: 11/22/2021

WHEREAS The Londonderry Town Council has adopted the provisions of RSA 72:37-b, on October 7, 2002, with the Exemption for the Disabled becoming effective April 1, 2003; and,

WHEREAS The Town Council is desirous of reviewing exemption levels and making an adjustment to insure that the exemption amount is appropriate for current economic conditions; and,

WHEREAS The Town Council may, pursuant to the provisions of RSA 72:27-a, consider and act upon the question in accordance with its normal procedures for passage of resolutions, ordinances and other legislation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Londonderry that *Title VI - Town Policy, Chapter XIX - Disabled Exemption Policy* is hereby revised as set forth herein, with its provisions to become effective February 3, 2020 and reviewed periodically thereafter.

John Farrell - Chairman Town Council

A true copy attest:

Sherry Farrell – Town Clerk

Dated: 11/22/2021

(TOWN SEAL)

Chapter XIX – DISABLED EXEMPTION POLICY

SECTION I PURPOSE

- A. To adopt the provisions of RSA 72:37-b and establish qualifications for the exemption for persons with disabilities.

SECTION II QUALIFICATIONS and DEFINITIONS

- A. The disabled exemption from property tax in the Town of Londonderry shall apply to any person who is eligible under title II or Title XVI of the Federal Social Security Act for benefits to the disabled and is applied on a yearly basis in an amount to be shown by the Town.
- B. The exemption by be applied only to property which is occupied as the principal place of abode by the disabled person. The exemption may be applied to any land or buildings appurtenant to the residence or to manufactured housing if that is the principal place of abode.
- C. To qualify the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five (5) years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person’s spouse, they must have been married for at least five (5) years.
- D. The taxpayer’s net income and assets levels shall be the same as specified in the Londonderry Elderly Exemption Policy, Chapter XII of Title VI of the Municipal Code.
- E. The term “residential real estate” shall mean the real estate which the person qualified for an exemption or a tax credit thereunder occupies as his principal place of abode together with any land or buildings appurtenant thereto and shall include manufactured housing if used for said purpose.

SECTION III BENEFITS

- A. The disabled exemption from property tax in the Town of Londonderry, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers shall be \$144,000.
- B. The exemption under this section shall apply only in taxable years during which the person with a disability on the residential real estate for which the exemption is claimed on April 1 in any given year.

~~ End of Policy ~~

memo

To: Londonderry Town Council
From: Stephan Hamilton, Contract Assessor 
CC: Kevin Smith, Town Manager
Date: 10/26/2021
Re: Adjusted Elderly and Disability Exemption Benefit Amount Recommendations

The Town has undertaken a revaluation of all property this year, and there has been an increase in the assessed value of residential properties occupied by residents that receive Elderly and Disability Exemptions. These amounts are set by the Town Council and were last revised in early 2020 after the 2019 reassessment.

There are four categories of property to which these exemptions are applied: Disabled Persons; Elderly aged 65-74; Elderly aged 75-79; and Elderly aged 80 or more. Qualification criteria are applied to determine eligibility.

Analyzing the increase in property values for the recipients reveals that the value of homes owned by them increased approximately 16%. In order to maintain a similar level of benefit, I am recommending that the exemption amount be increased by that approximate percentage.

I have summarized the number of qualified recipients per category, the total current exemption amounts, the number of recipients where the exemption covers all taxes, the proposed exemption amounts and the number where the proposed amount of the exemption covers all taxes.

Exemption Type	Number	Current Amount	# Covers All Taxes	Proposed Amount	New # Covers All Taxes
Disability	30	\$ 123,625.00	9	\$ 144,000.00	10
Elderly 65-74	62	\$ 123,625.00	17	\$ 144,000.00	18
Elderly 75-79	38	\$ 154,500.00	15	\$ 180,000.00	15
Elderly 80+	79	\$ 206,000.00	31	\$ 240,000.00	31

I am available to answer any questions that you might have regarding the analysis and my recommendations.

RESOLUTION 2021-26

A Resolution Relative to the
Acceptance of Unanticipated Revenue Under RSA 31:95-b

First Reading: 11/01/2021
Second Reading: Waived
Adopted: 11/01/2021

WHEREAS the Town of Londonderry adopted the provisions of RSA 31:95-b with the passage of warrant article 18 at their March, 1994 town meeting; and,

WHEREAS the Town Council has complied with RSA 31:95-b, III (b) relative to unanticipated moneys received in amounts less than \$10,000; and,

WHEREAS the Town has been awarded a grant by the NH State Council on the Arts in the amount of up to \$5,100.00, in order to assist in the cost of running the Concerts on the Common program during the Spring, Summer and Fall of 2022.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Londonderry Town Council that grant revenue in the amount of up to \$5,100.00 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 to be used until the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, is hereby accepted.

John Farrell - Chairman
Town Council

Sharon Farrell - Town Clerk

(TOWN SEAL)

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

11/01/2021

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1 October 18, 2021

2
3 The meeting took place in the Moose Hill Council Chambers, 268B Mammoth Rd,
4 Londonderry, NH 03053.

5
6 Present: Chairman John Farrell; Vice Chairman Joe Green; Councilor Tom Dolan, Jim
7 Butler, and Deb Paul; Town Manager Kevin Smith; Assistant Town Manager Lisa Drabik;
8 Executive Assistant Kirby Brown;

9
10 CALL TO ORDER

11
12 Chairman Farrell called the Town Council meeting to order. This was followed by the
13 Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for Bob Introne, long time
14 State Rep and Londonderry resident, who passed away recently.

15
16 PUBLIC COMMENT

17
18 Tony DeFrancesco, and Bob Slater, gave a presentation about relocating the school district
19 office to next door of Town Hall. There is an Ad Hoc Committee to study what is possible
20 and available. DeFrancesco stated that the committee is looking at the area right next to
21 town hall. The idea is to put up a two-story building with a wing, much like the original
22 plans, make it look exactly the same on the outside as well. DeFrancesco stated that there is
23 a time crunch for a few reasons. It has been in the works for a little over a year now. Slater
24 stated that he came in front of the Council a few months ago, having discussions about next
25 door. Slater stated that they will be presenting to the School Board tomorrow night.
26 DeFrancesco stated that the site that's there now is a cost avoidance of a million and a half
27 dollars. DeFrancesco stated that there will be a guarantee price by the design/building
28 people that will go to the voters on the ballot. The Councilors expressed concern for the
29 ownership portion of it. DeFrancesco stated that it is important that this passes. The Council
30 discussed parking and to make sure there is enough.

31
32 Ray Breslin, 3 Gary Drive, stated that on the original warrant article, it said to redo the
33 existing building, and then the building was torn down. Chairman Farrell stated that the
34 warrant article didn't say we had to use the same building. The Building Inspector deemed

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

35 the original building to be unsafe.

36

37 Chairman Farrell stated that the town will not be relinquishing ownership. Chairman Farrell
38 suggested that they put together some wording for the Council to look at.

39

NEW BUSINESS

40

41
42 Chairman Farrell introduced Order #2021-15, an Order relative to the expenditure of
43 Maintenance Trust Fund for various projects. Dave Wholley presented. Wholley stated that
44 the work will take place at the DPW garage. Motion to approve Order #2021-15 made by
45 Councilor Dolan and second by Councilor Butler. Chair votes 5-0-0.

46

47 Assistant Town Solicitor gave a presentation on the language for the nonbinding warrant
48 article on water system expansion. Malaguti stated that the PFAS Committee recommended
49 we look at a nonbinding warrant article to gage the voters interest in expanding portable
50 water in town. Malaguti discussed the feasibility study done by NHDES. The Council
51 advised Malaguti on how to move forward and discussed some concerns they would have.

52

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

53

54
55 Motion to approve the Town Council minutes from September 27, 2021 made by Vice
56 Chairman Green and second by Councilor Dolan. Chair votes 5-0-0.

57

58 Chairman Farrell stated that the Council received an email about an employee and asked
59 the Council if they would like to go into non-public. Vice Chairman Green stated that he
60 would like to. Motion to enter non-public under RSA 91-A:3 made by roll call vote: Vice
61 Chairman Joe Green, Councilor Deb Paul, Councilor Jim Butler, Councilor Tom Dolan,
62 Chairman John Farrell. The Council entered into non-public with Assistant Town manager
63 Lisa Drabik.. The Council reentered the meeting through roll call vote: Vice Chairman Joe
64 Green, Councilor Deb Paul, Councilor Jim Butler, Councilor Tom Dolan, Chairman John
65 Farrell.

66

67

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

68 Chairman Farrell stated that he Council will go back into non-public to discuss proposed
69 tax deed waivers under RSA 80:38. Roll call vote: Vice Chairman Joe Green, Councilor
70 Deb Paul, Councilor Jim Butler, Councilor Tom Dolan, Chairman John Farrell. The Council
71 reentered+6 the meeting in a roll call vote: Vice Chairman Joe Green, Councilor Deb Paul,
72 Councilor Jim Butler, Councilor Tom Dolan, Chairman John Farrell. Councilor Dolan
73 motioned to seal the minutes for the two non-publics. Second by Vice Chairman Green.
74 Chair votes 5-0-0.

75

76

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

77

78 Motion to accept the resignation of Chris Davies from the Planning Board made by Vice
79 Chairman Green and second by Councilor Dolan. Chair votes 5-0-0.

80

81 Motion to appoint Suzanne Brunelle to a four-year full-time position, re-appoint Brian
82 Battaglia to a one-year alternate position, and appoint Lynn Wiles to a one-year alternate
83 position on Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission made by Vice Chairman Green
84 and second by Councilor Butler. Chair votes 5-0-0.

85

86

ADJOURNMENT

87

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

90

91 Notes and Tapes by: Kirby Brown Date: 10/18/2021

92 Minutes Typed by: Kirby Brown Date: 10/23/2021

93 Approved by: Town Council Date: 11/01/2021