

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 4, 2021

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 Jim Butler; Town Manager Kevin Smith; Assistant Town Manager Lisa Drabik; Executive Assistant Kirby Brown; Attending remotely: Councilor Deb Paul

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

NHDES gave an update to the Council on the drinking water concerns in Londonderry. Chairman Farrell introduced Brandon Kernen with NHDES who was present via phone for the meeting. Kernen introduced himself, the administrator of the drinking water/ground water bureau for NHDES.

Chairman Farrell announced that Councilor Paul was attending the meeting via phone.

Kernen stated that there has been a lot of sampling going on. There are about 200 residential wells outside the descent decree area that exceed in PFAS levels. Kernen said letters went out to people about how to sample their own wells id they won't want to wait for the state. Kernen stated that they have received at least fifty calls. You can fill out information on the NHDES website. Kernen encourages people to fill out the information on the website if they want their well tested.

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34 Kernen stated that the next step is to continue to characterize the extent of contamination
35 and the exposure to what's considered to be too much PFAS. Kernen went over temporary
36 fixes with bottle water and filters.

37 Councilor Paul asked for a timeline as to when things would move forward and be put into
38 place. Councilor Paul also said she's heard mixed things about the reverse osmosis and if
39 you have a septic, pushing all of the water into your septic can damage your leach fields.
40 People should be made aware of damage, along with fixing the water. Kernen stated that
41 there are steps in the next few months with financial assistance for point of use treatment.
42 Kernen stated that they are going to work with the Town to come up with the timeline over
43 the next few weeks and there can be routine updates. Kernen said they only have half of the
44 data with the sampling results so far.

45
46 Chairman Farrell stated that the town is underwhelmed by the response from the state and
47 not being able to have a timeline, is disappointing.

48
49 Ray Breslin, 3 Gary Dr, asked Kernen for clarification on the way of measuring parts per
50 trillion. Is there another way of measuring PFOA. Kernen stated that the PFAS results, the
51 labs report, and monograms per liter, which is equivalent to parts per trillion, they are used
52 interchangeably in a liquid form. If you were doing it in soil it would be grams per
53 milligram, grams for gram. Monograms per liter or parts per trillion is what's being done.

54
55 Dave Larochelle, 22 Shasta Dr, stated that he did receive a letter a week ago that a well
56 within 500 feet of his house tested positive, so he is concerned. Larochelle asked where the
57 problem is coming from and if there is any recourse. Chairman Farrell stated that it's coming
58 from Saint Gobain and Merrimack is suing them and taking action against Saint Gobain.
59 Chairman Farrell stated that Londonderry has been supporting everything that Merrimack
60 has been doing.

61
62 Tony Defrancesco, 1 Cheshire Ct, stated that he recognizes that the Council has been
63 working hard to work together with the School Board/District, and it seems like every time,
64 a law, RSA, or a wall keeps it from moving forward. Defrancesco stated that the town should
65 open a Charter Commission to find a way to work together.

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PUBLIC HEARING

There was no public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Farrell introduced Resolution #2021-01, the first reading of a Resolution amending and extending Resolution #2020-03 relative to the expiration date of the Town of Londonderry temporary leave policy. Assistant Town Manager Lisa Drabik presented. There will be a public hearing at the next Council meeting on January 18th. Motion to approve Resolution #2021-01 made by Vice Chairman Green and second by Councilor Dolan. Chair voted 5-0-0 in roll call vote.

Chairman Farrell introduces Order #2021-01, an order relative to the expenditure of maintenance trust fund for various projects. This Order is for winter maintenance. Motion to approve Order #2021-01 made by Vice Chairman Green and second by Councilor Dolan. Chair votes 5-0-0 in roll call vote.

OLD BUSINESS

The Council went over Warrant Articles. Chairman Farrell stated that they have looked at comparison tax rates from town to town, level of service, etc. Town Manager Smith presented the tax rate for all local towns. Town Manager Smith stated that revenue is trending higher than last year. Rental car registrations are trending higher as well.

Chairman Farrell discussed Article 3. Expendable Maintenance Trust Fund, \$90k come out of UFB and \$90k will come out of the tax rate. Councilor Dolan stated that the language in the article should be matured to explain why this article is necessary. Finance Director Justin Campo stated that he will work with the attorney and DRA, but we have to be careful with the wording. The more we put in there, the more stringent it becomes.

Chairman Farrell jumped to Article 13, extend water main to the homes behind the Apple Tree Mall. Town Manager Smith provided some background with discussions that have

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101 been had with Pennichuck, a cost sharing plan, Apple Tree Mall owner, Londonderry, and
102 residents would have cost sharing responsibility to bring municipal water to that area.

103
104 Ethan Paul, 19 Lancaster, stated that he is one of the houses affected. It has been a year
105 since they have been able to drink their water. Paul stated that his number is 430 and other
106 neighbors have extremely high numbers as well. Paul stated that he went to Kevin and that's
107 where the planning began.

108
109 Erica Laue, 18 Lancaster Dr, stated that her level is high. Laue stated that she has been told
110 that the houses are unsellable properties due to this issue. They would be locked into their
111 homes until something municipal is installed.

112
113 Chairman Farrell stated that we are looking at \$200M to hook up the entire town. Chairman
114 Farrell stated that this article will go onto the ballot for the voters.

115
116 Vice Chairman Green asked how much the system will be per house. Smith stated that it's
117 his understanding that it's about \$200k for all eight homes in the area.

118
119 Chairman Farrell went through the remainder of the articles.

120
121 Assistant Town Solicitor Mike Malaguti discussed Article 12, who has been working with
122 the Conservation Commission on the sale of a portion of Mack's Apples. Terms of the
123 town's proposed purchase of the 28 acre parcel at 114 Pillsbury Rd. This is the orchard that
124 abuts the Town Hall parcel. Malaguti explained the history.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

125
126
127
128 Motion to approve the Town Council minutes from December 21, 2020 made by Vice
129 Chairman Green and second by Councilor Dolan. Chair votes 5-0-0 in a roll call vote.

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ADJOURNMENT

- 133
- 134
- 135 Motion to adjourn made by Vice Chairman Green and second by Councilor Dolan. Chair
- 136 votes 5-0-0 in a roll call vote.
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| 138 | Notes and Tapes by: | Kirby Brown | Date: 1/04/2021 |
| 139 | Minutes Typed by: | Kirby Brown | Date: 1/10/2021 |
| 140 | Approved by: | Town Council | Date: 1/18/2021 |