

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1 March 2, 2020

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3 The Town Council meeting was held in the Moose Hill Council Chambers, Town Hall,
4 268B Mammoth Road, Londonderry, NH.

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

9
10 CALL TO ORDER

11
12 Chairman Farrell called the Town Council special meeting to order and led the Pledge of
13 Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for all of those who serve us both
14 here and abroad and for the first responders in Londonderry.

15
16 PUBLIC COMMENT

17
18 Chairman Farrell gave a brief update on PFOA's in the Town of Londonderry. Chairman
19 Farrell introduced members of NHDES who are here to answer questions regarding
20 PFOA's for residents. There will be public comment. Chairman Farrell gave a brief
21 history of the situation as well.

22
23 Clark Freise, Assistant Commissioner of NHDES went over some of the chemicals that
24 are being found in the water. Freise stated that his mother-in-law lives in Londonderry and
25 he also lives in a town infected. The compounds that are of interest are called PFOS and
26 PFOA's. Freise went over the difference and how they affect the water. These compounds
27 will accumulate in the environment. They won't break down.

28
29 Jeff Marts, Senior Hydrogeologist at NHDES, touched base on the sections in
30 Londonderry that are most affected by PFOA and PFOS levels. Marts presented a map
31 showing.

32
33 Councilor Tom Dolan, stated that he is a State Representative and they discussed an idea
34 for a plan of action. Many people are living with bottled water. Some of the people get the
35 water bought for them, but others are buying it themselves. Councilor Dolan stated that it
36 can be a financial burden on some people. Having Londonderry become a pilot

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37 community where the town would put up some money for a filter system for individuals
38 who do a water test and they test over the limits. You would bring those results to the
39 town and the town would pay for a filtration system for your home, and the state would
40 issue matching funds. And eventually reimburse the town once funds became available.
41 Councilor Dolan asked the Council if they would be interested in this exploratory program
42 to work with the state to come up with a program to do that. Chairman Farrell stated that
43 the town's legal counsel has advised that this is a program that the town can look at. There
44 was a consensus with the Council to move forward with it.

45
46 Bob Ramsay, 26 Ellwood Rd, stated that he has been tested for cancer. Ramsay stated that
47 with the changing of limits, if they test it now, is the stuff moving because of the flow or
48 moving strictly because of the change of levels. Marts stated that the maps presented don't
49 capture changes over time. Only a few places have been tested over time so we are not
50 sure how PFAST changes over time in Londonderry.

51
52 Ray Breslin, 3 Gary Drive, read in a public trust into the record. Breslin stated that these
53 chemicals are leaking out from the Tinkham Superfund Site. Freise stated that that is
54 correct. Breslin also referred to the blasting taking place on 93 and how that is putting
55 chemicals and arsenic into the air and water as well.

56
57 Sharma Praveen, 138 Winterwood Drive, asked Freise what the treatment technology
58 currently being performed for PFOA and PFOS. Marts stated that it's the same treatment
59 that work for both. Praveen asked what the technology behind the sampling is like. Freise
60 stated that there are two methods of testing currently. You want to hire a professional for
61 these tests.

62
63 It was discussed whether abatements would be given or looked at for those affected by the
64 water issues.

65
66 Freise stated that if you go to the NHDES website, a toxicologist put a report on there that
67 breaks everything down by compound, what is the health condition that is most sensitive,
68 how it gets transmitted to a human being, etc. Freise stated that a lot of these chemicals
69 stay in your body for a long time.

70
71 Erik Kolifraith, 9 Kelley Rd, asked about potential programs for homeowners. Kolifraith
72 asked if municipal water is a better solution. Chairman Farrell stated that municipal water
73 system is not properly filtered and regulated and you're still going to receive the PFOA's.

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74 Chairman Farrell also stated that the number needs to be zero. It would also go to the
75 ballot and it would take anywhere from three to five years to implement it. Chairman
76 Farrell stated that it would also be extremely expensive for the voters.

77
78 Erica Laue, 18 Lancaster Dr, stated that she liked the idea of contributing to funding for
79 individual home treatments for a short term strategy. Laue stated that she would like to
80 advocate for point of entry systems as well.

81
82 Lorraine Sheehan, stated that she does like Councilor Dolans filtration system idea but it is
83 expensive to do whole house system. Sheehan stated that since the chemicals are in the air
84 and water, it is not safe to plant anything in your yard and it has ruined a lot of properties
85 up here.

86
87 Erin Wessling, 10 Hazelnut Ln, stated that she was at the meeting in Merrimack in
88 October. Wessling asked what the permit status was and if they have received the permit.
89 What is Saint -Gobain being held responsible for? Marts went over what they are required
90 to have now. Wessling asked if the town has their own sites they're monitoring. Chairman
91 Farrell stated that there was a town-wide water study and it is a learning experience for
92 everyone. Chairman Farrell stated that the town is asking anyone who has tested their well
93 to share it with the town so that we can track them as well.

94
95 Deb Paul, 118 Hardy Rd, stated that the arsenic levels do cause cancer and they are very
96 high. Paul stated that the arsenic filter systems run anywhere from one thousand to three
97 thousand dollars and you have to replace them every two to three years and that cost is
98 always going to keep going up. Paul stated that it is all drinking water and it will affect the
99 selling of houses and everything and it needs to be paid attention to. Paul stated that there
100 needs to be a water plan. Chairman Farrell stated that we need to put together another
101 meeting to discuss arsenic and have the specialists that know more about it.

102
103 Greg DePasse, 21 Welch Rd, asked if there was anything that can be done on a larger
104 scale rather than just household treatment. DePasse asked when enough is enough. Marts
105 stated that in terms of putting in a town-wide treatment system that would be difficult to
106 clean it all up. For it to clean up on its own, the estimated timeframes is a few decades.

107
108 Vinny Curro, 103 High Range Rd, stated that water is being provided to his family form
109 Saint-Gobain. Curro stated that it's over two-hundred dollars to have your water tested
110 and it is well worth it. Curro asked if letting the state know the results okay. Chairman

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111 Farrell stated to let the Town Managers Office know as well.

112

113

PUBLIC HEARING

114

115

NONE

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117

OLD BUSINESS

118

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NONE

120

121

NEW BUSINESS

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NONE

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

126

127 Motion to approve the February 3rd and February 24th Town Council minutes made by
128 Councilor Combes and second by Councilor Dolan. Chair votes 4-0-1.

129

130

ADJOURNMENT

131

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

134

135

136 Notes and Tapes by: Kirby Brown Date: 03/02/2020

137 Minutes Typed by: Kirby Brown Date: 03/11/2020

138 Approved by: Town Council Date: 03/16/2020