

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1 **March 14, 2022**

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

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6 Present: Chairman John Farrell; Vice Chairman Joe Green; Councilor Jim Butler, Chad
7 Franz, and Deb Paul; Acting Town Manager Michael Malaguti; Absent: Executive Assistant
8 Kirby Brown, Assistant Town Manager Lisa Drabik

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10 **CALL TO ORDER**

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12 Chairman Farrell called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM. This was followed
13 by the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for all of those who
14 are in harms way in Ukraine, pray for their safety.

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16 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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18 First order of business was Council reorganization. Councilor Butler motioned to appoint
19 John Farrell as Chairman and Joe Green for Vice Chairman. Second by Councilor Chad
20 Franz. Chair votes 5-0-0.

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22 Police Chief Bill Hart discussed the part-time retiree healthcare insurance with the Council.
23 Acting Town Manager Michael Malaguti stated that this discussion came up at a prior
24 meeting. The first concern was that there are a lot of unfilled positions at the Police and Fire
25 Department. And a concern was expressing around the provision of health insurance
26 benefits to part-time retired employees. Chief Hart stated that they typically run about seven
27 open positions per year. Chief Hart stated that more than one third of the PD has shifted in
28 the last less than four year. Chief Hart went over what it takes to hire an uncertified police
29 officer in terms of testing and training. It takes a year and a half. And a year for a certified
30 officer. Chief Hart stated that because of the extensive hiring process, they have low
31 complaints.

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33 Chief Hart stated that the health insurance was dealt with creatively. When the Conservation
34 Ranger was hired, it looked like it could be done for one cost. That however didn't workout

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35 for the employee. When the search was done for another employee's, it just wouldn't work.
36 Chief Hart stated that they crafted a specific category of employee who could get the part-
37 time basis and could have access to health insurance. It was not easy to do. Chief Hart stated
38 that they worked with finance to come up with a way to do it. The push came in the use of
39 the stipend which employees are given to defray the overall cost of insurance. Chief Hart
40 stated that people who are on the roles, as group two employee's, on June 30th, 2000 or
41 before, qualify for the subsidy, if they retire after twenty years. All three of the employee's
42 met that qualification. These are full-time, part time certified, officers. They can do
43 everything a police officer can do.

44

45 Dan Bouchard, 8 O'Connell Dr, stated that this should have been brought out beforehand.
46 Bouchard stated that the sidebar was signed in 2020 and this has been going on for two
47 years without the tax payers and Council knowing. Bouchard stated that he wants to see
48 transparency.

49

50 Richard Belinsky, 89 Hall Road, stated that he is all about transparency. If the voters vote
51 on a union contract and a few months later it gets changed, the taxpayer needs to know about
52 it.

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54 Acting Town Manager Malaguti went over the Charter and how the sidebar works. Malaguti
55 stated that under the Charter, the Town Manager is the chief operating officer of the town.
56 He is responsible for the administrative and financial affairs of the town.

57

58 Councilor Paul stated that she sees where the public is coming from and she doesn't believe
59 anyone is saying anyone did something wrong. Councilor Paul stated that it is refreshing to
60 see Acting Town Manager Malaguti to keep the Council updated.

61

62 Tom asked if it would open up a can of worms for teachers, public works employees, anyone
63 who wants part time. Chairman Farrell stated that he doesn't believe so. The schools are a
64 separate form of government.

65

66 Kristine Perez, 5 Wesley Drive, stated that the town needs to think more about running like
67 a business, because it is a big business. The real world does not get health insurance at
68 twenty hours. What is to stop more people, and other departments, to want to work part-
69 time once they retire and take health insurance.

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70 Sean O'Mara, President of the Green Council at Londonderry High School. O'Mara stated
71 that he wants to talk about having a possible member join the SWEC. Malaguti stated that
72 Lynn Wiles reached out to him about an interested student. Malaguti stated that it was a
73 good idea but wanted to check with the Council. Malaguti stated that the student could be
74 an Ex-Officio or a full member. A liaison would work as well. Chairman Farrell asked if
75 they need to be 18. The Council stated that it was a great idea.

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NEW BUSINESS

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79 Re-appointment of the Tax Collector, pursuant to RSA 41:33, to re-appoint Allison
80 Parsons, as the Tax Collector for one-year from April 1, 2022. Vice Chairman Green
81 motioned. Second by Councilor Butler. Chair votes 5-0-0.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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85 Motion to approve the Town Council minutes from February 22, 2022 made by Vice
86 Chairman Green and second by Councilor Paul. Chair votes 4-1-0. Councilor Franz
87 abstained because he wasn't a member on the Council at the time.

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89 Town Manager Mike Malaguti gave a Town Manager update.

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ADJOURNMENT

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93 Motion to adjourn made by Vice Chairman Green and second by Councilor Franz. Chair
94 votes 5-0-0.

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96 Notes and Tapes by: Kirby Brown Date: 3/14/2022

97 Minutes Typed by: Kirby Brown Date: 3/21/2022

98 Approved by: Town Council Date: 3/28/2022