

Londonderry Town Council Minutes
Monday, March 20, 2023
7:00 PM
Moose Hill Council Chambers

Attendance: Present: Chairman John Farrell; Vice Chairman Chad Franz; Councilors Jim Butler, Ted Combes, and Ron Dunn; Town Manager Michael Malaguti; Assistant Town Manager Kellie Caron

Call to Order

Chairman Farrell called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Pledge was led by Chairman Farrell. This was followed by a moment of silence for our DPW Department who kept the roads clear and safe during the last few snow storms.

Council Reorganization

Chairman Farrell congratulated Ron Dunn and Ted Combes on being elected as new Council members.

Councilor Butler motioned to elect John Farrell as Chairman. Second by Councilor Combes.

John Farrell	Yes
Chad Franz	Yes
Jim Butler	Yes
Ted Combes	Yes
Ron Dunn	Yes

Councilor Dunn motioned to elect Chad Franz as Vice-Chairman Second by Councilor Butler.

John Farrell	Yes
Chad Franz	Yes
Jim Butler	Yes
Ted Combes	Yes
Ron Dunn	Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT

Name: Heather Carey

Address: 132 Pillsbury Road, Londonderry, NH

Carey spoke to the Council regarding pickleball in Londonderry. Carey answered questions that came up online and stated that pickleball is not just for seniors, it's for all ages. Carey stated that the location is not set in stone, she's open to look at other locations for what works.

Name: Jim Schou

Address: 14 Cortland Street, Londonderry, NH

Schou stated that he has played pickleball for years and its been the healthiest thing for him. He will be seventy-eight next month. He showed the crowd what a pickleball racket was. Schou stated that he has played with people of all ages, from ten to ninety. Schou shared how large of an industry it is now.

Name: Art Pseledas

Address: 12 Mont Vernon Drove, Londonderry, NH

Pseledas is Recreation Director. Pseledas stated that his hope is that it will offer more recreational opportunities for people in town. Pseledas stated that this is something we should offer the residents.

Chairman Farrell suggested putting together a Task Force, and put a time limit on it with certain criteria. They would report back to the Council and take the next step. Chairman Farrell stated that he's hearing that we need to move forward with this. Chairman Farrell directed the Town Manager to start putting together what a Task Force would look like. By next meeting we should layout what a Task Force would look like. Chairman Farrell asked to look at grants as well. Chairman Farrell stated that a Task Force does not guarantee it will move forward.

Name: Jim Green

Address: 22 Sugarplum Lane, Londonderry, NH

Green stated that he is Chair of Senior Resources Committee. Green stated that there are nearly eight thousand residents of Londonderry, fifty-five and older. Right behind them are the thirty to fifty-five-year-old people. Green stated that there aren't a lot of activities for seniors in Londonderry. One of the big things to keep them healthy is activities to help them stay fit.

Chairman Farrell introduced the re-appointment of the Tax Collector. Motion to re-appoint Allison Parsons as Tax Collector, she is the current Tax Collector. It is a one-year contract. Motion made by Vice-Chairman Franz. Second by Councilor Butler.

John Farrell	Yes
Chad Franz	Yes
Jim Butler	Yes
Ted Combes	Yes
Ron Dunn	Yes

Chairman Farrell reminded the public of procedure of public comment.

Name: Tara Myles

Address: 11 Lancaster Drive, Londonderry, NH

Myles stated that over the last few weeks we have seen a bit craziness and people have shown a lack of respect for some of the Council members. Myles stated that even if she doesn't agree with a situation, every person deserves to be spoken to and emailed with respect. Myles stated that she would like to talk about the election. While she agrees that it was a legal election, the results are legal and will stand, she does want to say that it was a bit disappointing, as a voter who doesn't have a car with 4-wheel drive, to get out and vote. Myles stated that the roads were horrible that day. Myles stated that he car went into a ditch and it was a poor decision to hold the elections that day. Myles also discussed signage. Myles stated that there was a small group of people who put together inappropriate signs that made our town look bad. Myles shared a solution idea with the Council of a lottery system for signs.

Name: Ann Chiampa

Address: 28 Wedgewood Drive, Londonderry, NH

Chiampa hared that a moment of silence is usually showing respect for someone who has passed away. Chiampa also shared her experience on Election Day.

Name: John Wilson

Address: Tranquil Drive, Londonderry, NH

Wilson stated that he has no problems with what was decided about pickleball, but maybe on a temporary basis, that we would quickly create four to six courts. Wilson stated that there are a few places at the West Road parking lot where parking space can be used. Chairman Farrell stated that all options are on the table.

Name: Kristine Perez

Address: 5 Wesley Drive, Londonderry NH

Perez congratulated the new Council members. Perez also spoke in support of the Town Moderators decision to hold the elections. Perez stated that there were other factors besides the weather. Perez stated that Londonderry was trialing new machines, we were only one of two towns in the state, the machine people needed to be there. Perez stated that there was a lot to be considered. Perez thanked Kipp for taking it all into consideration. Perez also stated that at the last Town Council meeting it was discussed that town residents couldn't use town conference rooms for meeting, yet LSC was able to meet in one after the last meeting. Chairman Farrell stated that LSC is a sanctioned group, sanctioned by the Town Council. Chairman Farrell stated that there are different rules for sanctioned groups. Perez stated that she emailed the Town Manager on the night of that email and never got a reply. Perez stated that one final thing she would like to bring up, is that there has been many verbal and written false allegations and threats, both made by a member of the Council, over the past weeks. They have all been reported to the Attorney General and are on record. Perez stated that the residents deserve better.

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Name: Ray Breslin

Address: 3 Gary Drive. Londonderry, NH

Breslin stated that pickleball is a great idea, but there will be some engineering that will have to go into it. In the mean time we have a lot of engineering we have to do about water. Where is that money coming from.

Name: Glenn Douglas

Address: 6 Overlook Ave, Londonderry, NH

Douglas wanted to address an email he sent earlier regarding roll call votes, which are required under Town Council rules in the Charter. Douglas also stated that he would like to get a copy of Town Council rules and know when they were adopted. Douglas stated that the website he runs posted the rules and everything he heard at the beginning of the meeting isn't in the rules. Chairman Farrell stated that they were adopted in 2017. Chairman Farrell stated that the Town Manager will provide an updated copy.

Name: Dan Bouchard

Address: 8 O'Connell Drive, Londonderry

Bouchard stated that a year ago he brought up the gas bill, and the PFAS and PFOA concerns. Bouchard stated that he never sees what happens when things are discussed. Bouchard stated that he discussed foam that the fire department uses that they shouldn't be. Chief O'Brien stated that the stated has put together a program that the foam that's being talked about has been transferred out and there's a new type of foam which is not as bad as that one, but not the best one that's out there. Chief O'Brien went over what Class B foam is used for. Bouchard gave a scenario where the foam could contaminate wells.

Name: Jonathan Esposito

Address: 5 Shelley Drive, Londonderry, NH

Esposito stated that it's interesting that there's a select few groups in Londonderry who can go get Council approve to utilize the meeting rooms. Esposito asked the Council to make the mechanism of being able to use the rooms and meeting space, available to the public so citizens can apply for that exception. Chairman Farrell stated that since the mid 2000's, groups have been sanctioned by the Council. Any group can apply to be sanctioned. There is an entire sanctioning process. Esposito stated that it must be an oversite by the Town Manager that he didn't make that mechanism available to them. Esposito asked if the Town Manager could send him that process. Esposito stated that he has also been greatly mischaracterized due to the 91-A issue. Esposito stated that the only reasons he began filing 91-A requests is because he would ask for the information and it wasn't being supplied to him so the only way to obtain it is that way. Esposito shared a few instances where he has had to file 91-A requests. Esposito stated that there needs to be more two-way constructive dialog.

Name: Martha Smith

Address: 38 Shasta Drive, Londonderry, NH

Smith thanked Joe Green and Deb Paul for their years of service on the Council. Smith also welcomed the new members to the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Election Debrief

Town Moderator Jonathan Kipp made a presentation to the Council regarding the elections. Kipp gave recap of the elections including how many votes, how many ballots cast, and the new voting machines trial. The Secretary of States office deemed it successful. Kipp also discussed the process of why they held the elections. The process that was used is dictated by the statute.

Water System Article Update

Town Manager Malaguti gave the Council an update on developments pertaining to Londonderry's PFAS contamination problem, as well as the water supply issues. Malaguti stated that there was a warrant article that passed a few years ago where the money went toward a cost of service study, which looks at, if Londonderry went into the water business, what kinds of rate would Londonderry be able to offer, and to compare them to Pennichuck. Malaguti went over the article that was on this year's ballot. Malaguti stated that the town has been talking with DES to see what it will take to build out the system. Malaguti stated that we are not saying yes or no to a two-hundred-million-dollar water system. What we are really doing is saying yes or no to incremental extensions of this system to address the hardest hit areas that can be reached easily. Malaguti stated that all of this work that has taken place is close to final conclusion. Malaguti described the phases.

Name: Ray Breslin

Address: 3 Gary Drive, Londonderry, NH

Breslin stated that the town needs to get a proper grant writer. More needs to be done and we need to take advantage of it.

Name: Ann Chiampa

Address: 28 Wedgewood Drive, Londonderry, NH

Chiampa stated that we have one impending water tank in town and a few other tanks around town. Chiampa asked what percentage of that water is coming to Londonderry? How much water will Manchester Water Works will they sell to Londonderry? Chiampa asked a few questions. Chairman Farrell stated that DES will have to come answer the questions.

Name: Martha Smith

Address: 38 Shasta Drive, Londonderry, NH

Smith asked about the area west of High Range that's in the Saint-Gobain consent decree area.

Smith asked when Saint-Gobain is starting this work. Chairman Farrell stated that all the questions will be answered when DES comes to the meeting to answer them.

Name: Deb Paul

Address: 118 Hardy Road, Londonderry, NH

Paul stated that she hopes when the meeting happens, look for possible water and land resources.

Pula stated that the quantity in southern New Hampshire is going to be an issue.

Election Video Policy

Chairman Farrell stated that it was brought to their attention that there is an Election Video Policy. The Resolution was written in 2002, which was to give everyone equal access to the Cable Studio. Chairman Farrell asked the Council to revisit this Resolution, it needs to be changed. Chairman Farrell asked the Council's consensus to ask the Town Manager to work with the Cable Director to come up with a new Resolution.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the Town Council minutes from March 6, 2023 made by Vice Chairman Franz. Second by Councilor Butler.

John Farrell	Yes
Chad Franz	Yes
Jim Butler	Yes
Ted Combes	Abstain
Ron Dunn	Abstain

BOARD/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Motion to appoint Russ Greenwood as a member on the Recreation Commission with three-year term made by Vice Chairman Franz. Second by Councilor Butler.

John Farrell	Yes
Chad Franz	Yes
Jim Butler	Yes
Ted Combes	Yes
Ron Dunn	Yes

Town Manager Report

Town Manager Malaguti stated that the town will continue to advertise with the Londonderry

223 Times.

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225 **Adjournment**

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227 **Motion:** Vice Chairman Franz

228 **Second:** Councilor Combes

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John Farrell	Yes
Chad Franz	Yes
Jim Butler	Yes
Ted Combes	Yes
Ron Dunn	Yes

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231 Minutes taken by Kirby Brown on 3/20/2023

232 Minutes typed by Kirby Brown on 4/3/2023

233 Minutes approved by Town Council on 4/10/2023