

LONDONDERRY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Londonderry Town Council Meeting Minutes August 15, 2022

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

Present: Chairman John Farrell; Vice Chairman Joe Green; Councilor Jim Butler, Chad Franz, and Deb Paul; Town Manager Michael Malaguti; Finance Director Justin Campo; Absent: Executive Assistant Kirby Brown and Assistant Town Manager Lisa Drabik

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Farrell called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for all of those who serves us both here and abroad and all of our public safety and everyone stays safe during the upcoming Old Home Day event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Christine Perez, 5 Lesley Drive, stated that she has had concerns about the information that was given to Town Council about the brow-outs and black-outs. Perez stated that she has done a lot of research and she would like to meet with the Town Council privately to discuss things she has found. Perez stated that she doesn't believe we have the information we are supposed to have. Chairman Farrell stated that under State law, there are only few things the Council can meet in non-public about. Chairman Farrell stated that she could meet with up to two. Perez stated that would be okay.

Katie Sullivan, Winding Pond Rd, thanked the volunteers who have helped out with Old Home Day. There are a wonderful group of volunteers. Everyone has come together and we hope everyone enjoys it.

PUBLIC HEARING

Motion to open public hearing made by Vice Chairman Green and seconded by Councilor

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34 Franz. Chair votes 5-0-0. Chairman Farrell introduced the continuation of the Lithia Springs
35 Conservation transaction discussion.

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37 Town Manager Michael Malaguti stated that there was a public hearing at the last meeting
38 with Mike Speltz, Conservation Commission, and himself presented to the Council the
39 details of the transaction. The town proposes to hold this parcel of land in Conservation.
40 The Council had some questions about value and how threatened the property is by
41 development. Malaguti reported the answers to the Council. Malaguti stated that it is 54
42 acres of land and it has 14 wet acres and 39 up acres and 17 acres of used land. The appraised
43 value is \$2,080,000.00. Malaguti stated that the sale prices of \$1.5M is a good deal.

44

45 Chairman Farrell read in a letter from resident Deanna Mele regarding Lithia Springs. See
46 attached as part of the record.

47

48 Councilor Paul stated that she thinks we can go after some of the water money if we cite
49 this as a secondary water source. Mike Speltz, 18 Sugarplum Lane, stated that the Grant
50 Councilor Paul is referring to is the one the Conservation Commission got when the town
51 purchased the piece of Mack's Apples behind the building. The Groundwater Trust Fund.
52 That program wouldn't accept the application because it's limited to the lands that have a
53 source of water on them. Speltz said that they have applied for a \$500,000.00 Grant from
54 the Land and Community Investment Program, and another \$500,000.00 from the Aquatic
55 Resource Mitigation Program and those are the two that are very appealing.

56

57 Christine Perez, 5 Lesley Drive, stated that we are in a recession and the town shouldn't be
58 putting out any money, if anything, for Conservation land. Save it for pressing issues and
59 the taxpayers. Vice Chairman Green stated that this money is set aside for Conservation use
60 only.

61

62 Ray Breslin, 3 Gary Drive, stated that he is for this. We need to look at all potential water
63 sources.

64

65 The Council discussed the land and some options. The Council stated that they would like
66 to see the detailed appraisal. The Council

67

68 Vice Chairman Green motioned to continue the discussion. Seconded by Councilor Franz.

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69 Chair votes 5-0-0.

70

71 Chairman Farrell introduced Resolution #2022-15, the acceptance of unanticipated revenue
72 RSA 31:95-b, III(a), for a highway block grant in the amount of \$530,316.91 and municipal
73 bridge funding in the amount of \$397,786.00. Finance Director Justin Campo presented.

74

75 Councilor Paul asked what bridges need to be repaired in town. Director of Engineering and
76 Environmental Services, John Trottier, discussed the two bridges that are deemed “red
77 bridges” because they’re unsafe.

78

79 Motion to approve Resolution #2022-15 made by Vice Chairman Green and seconded by
80 Councilor Butler. Chair votes 5-0-0.

81

82 Motion to close the public hearing made by Vice Chairman Green and seconded by
83 Councilor Franz. Chair votes 5-0-0.

84

85 NEW BUSINESS

86

87 Chairman Farrell read in the resignation of Assistant Town Manager Lisa Drabik from the
88 CART Board of Directors, and the appointment of Ilona Arndt to the board. Motion to
89 accept the resignation made by Vice Chairman Green and seconded by Councilor Franz.
90 Chair votes 5-0-0.

91

92 Director of Engineering and Environmental Services, John Trottier, gave the Council a
93 briefing on the road and pavement plan, managements and practices. Trottier stated that
94 there are two accounts for the money for the work, Roadway Maintenance Line Item and
95 the Roadway Maintenance Trust Fund. Trottier summarized how they approach what road
96 issues they tackle.

97

98 Chairman Farrell invited up Jonathan Kipp, Town Moderator, do discuss the designation of
99 preferred are for electioneering at elections. The Council discussed places for handicap
100 access and corals, and the safety aspect of it.

101

102 Town Manager Malaguti discussed the Waste Management contract an increase in the trash

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103 and recycling contract. Due to the unforeseen market conditions, at the time the contract
104 was initiated in 2016, Waste Management is requesting an increase of 13%. Malaguti read
105 into the record a letter. Malaguti stated reasons why their cost could have gone up and the
106 town asked for data to prove it has gone up. Malaguti stated that the legal issue could go
107 either way but Londonderry should focus on the long-term interest of the town. The trash
108 has to get picked up. Malaguti stated that the proposal is set forth in the Councils materials.
109 Malaguti stated we are into FY23 budget and have not budgeted for an increase. Malaguti
110 suggested that increases should be phased in over the course of the contract. What is being
111 proposed it a .5% increase in FY23, a 6.5% increase in FY24, and 2% in FY56, and a 1%
112 in FY26. Malaguti stated that this is a \$568,000.00 over the course of the contract.

113
114 Director of Engineering and Environmental Services, John Trottier, and Environmental
115 Engineer Bob Kerry, went over the options and facts with the Council. Kerry stated that
116 there are 18,000 carts distributed throughout the town. Approximately 315 collections take
117 place every week.

118
119 Councilor Paul asked if there were other options for getting rid of specific trash and stated
120 that Derry does something similar to dumpster diving where ones mans trash si another
121 mans treasure. Kerry stated that it wouldn't be possible due to the safety because we don't
122 have the room and the town doesn't want the liability. The traffic needs to get in and out as
123 soon as possible.

124
125 Finance Director Justin Campo stated that the 13% was knocked down to 10% over the next
126 few years and that is the best deal. Chairman Farrell stated that the Council will wait to see
127 what they come back with.

128
129 Director of Public Works and Municipal Facilities Dave Wholley gave the Council an
130 update on the refreshed DPW website. Wholley stated that pertinent information is out there.
131 Wholley thanked Tom and Doug from IT and Donna and Denise from the office. Wholley
132 encouraged everyone to check out the new site.

133
134 Chairman Farrell introduced Order #2022-15, an Order relative to the expenditure of
135 Maintenance Trust Fund for various projects. This is for the compressor on the A/C unit at
136 the fire department. Motion to approve Order #2022-15 made by Vice Chairman Green and
137 seconded by Councilor Franz. Chair votes 5-0-0.

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138 Chairman Farrell stated that the Council will be tabling item number five, Resolution #2022-
139 14, updated policy against harassment and reporting procedures.

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141

OLD BUSINESS

142

143 Town Manager Malaguti gave an update on the strategic goals in consultation with
144 Department Heads. Malaguti stated that right now pieces are being moved around now that
145 Assistant Town Manager Drabik is leaving. Malaguti stated that this discussion will be best
146 had when we return to the strategic goals.

147

148 Deputy Chief Kim Bernard gave a brief overview of the handling of animal control calls.
149 Chief Bernard stated that on the July 11th meeting there were a couple residents complain
150 about the service not being good. Chief Bernard stated that he did follow-up with Animal
151 Control Officer Dave carver about one complaint. Chief Bernard stated that she couldn't
152 find a call from her. Chief Bernard stated ACO Bennett left in 2020 and ACO Carver didn't
153 start until August of 2020. Back then, animal control officer was dealing with hundreds of
154 calls. Carver is now part-time and he has handled hundreds of calls by himself. Chief
155 Bernard went over the process of how calls are handled. Chief Bernard stated that he won't
156 be coming back for more ACO staff and the department will manage with what they have.

157

158 Steve Hamilton, Londonderry Assessor, gave a Forest Hills abatement update to the
159 Council. Hamilton went over the differences in values at each of the properties, including
160 garage space. Hamilton

161

162 Finance Director Justin Campo and Town Manager Malaguti discussed processing of tax
163 payments. Campo stated that the town issues 10,671 tax bills in June, with a due date of
164 July 6th. That is not the only thing Clerks do during the timeframe. Campo discussed the
165 process of collecting and where the money goes once its collected.

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167

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

168

169 Motion to approve the Town Council minutes from July 11, 2022 as amended made by Vice
170 Chairman Green and seconded by Councilor Franz. Chair votes 5-0-0.

171

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APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

173

174 Chairman Farrell asked for a motion to appoint Brian Battaglia as a full-time member, 4-
175 year term on SNHPC and Jeff Penta as an alternate member, 1-year term. Motion to appoint
176 made by Vice Chairman Green and seconded by Councilor Butler. Chair votes 5-0-0.

177

178 Malaguti stated that at the last meeting, Lee Jeffers was appointed as a full-time member on
179 the Heritage Commission. Motion to amend the prior motion from July 11th to appoint Lee
180 Jeffers as an Alternate Member instead made by Vice Chairman Green and seconded by
181 Councilor Franz. Chair votes 5-0-0.

182

183 Malaguti gave an update to the Council on the drought status and stated we are in severe
184 drought status. The Council motioned to put into place level 2 drought restrictions.

185

186

ADJOURNMENT

187

188 Chairman Farrell gave an overview of Old Home Day.

189

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

192

193 Notes and Tapes by: Kirby Brown Date: 8/15/2022

194 Minutes Typed by: Kirby Brown Date: 8/20/2022

195 Approved by: Town Council Date: 8/29/2022